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P R A Y E R S

AND

Offices of Devotion

FOR

FAMILIES

AND FOR

PARTICULAR PERSONS,

UPON MOST OCCASIONS.

By *BENJAMIN JENKS*,

Late Rector of Harley, in Shropshire,
And Chaplain to the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Bradford.

MEN OUGHT ALWAYS TO PRAY AND NOT TO FAINT.

Luk. viii. 1.

CONTINUE IN PRAYER, AND WATCH IN THE SAME WITH
THANKSGIVING.

Col. iv. 2.

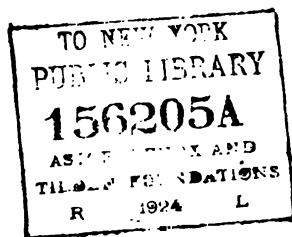
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TO THE.
RIGHT REV. FATHER IN GOD,

J O H N,

Lord Bishop of CHICHESTER.

MY LORD,

I Waited with some impatience to see that design accomplished by your accurate pen, which is here attempted now by my weak hand.-----Ever since you were pleased to acquaint me with your intention to publish something of this nature, it raised my expectation of your obliging the world with your printed Prayers, as you have done with many of your learned and seasonable Sermons ; but after you had let me know the reason of holding your hand, the same might have stopt mine too ; and I should have desisted, had the good Doctor who prevented you, or any of those worthy Authors,

DEDICATION.

that thus bestowed their pains, descended to such particulars, as I thought fit for the use of those whom I desire to serve.

But now that I am engaged, my Lord, your favor shewed to the well-meant performance here, has given me the boldness of this Dedication. And the advancement of such persons to high dignity in our church, as are so well known to deserve it, encourages me also to hope that gracious God hath yet a greater blessing for us than our own demerits give us reason to expect.

I beg your fatherly benediction upon me, and my poor endeavors, who am,

MY LORD,

Your obliged Kinsman,

in all humble observance,

Ben. Jenks.

P R E F A C E.

To my Neighbours and Acquaintance, particularly those in the Parishes committed to my Care.

My dear Friends,

IT is especially for your sakes, and primarily for your service, that I publish this Manual of Prayers, fitted to the capacities of your minds, to the necessities of your souls, and to the several conditions and occasions of your lives. Notwithstanding all the books of devotion already extant (many of which are very useful and excellent in their kinds, and such as I should recommend to you, without offering any other, did those with which I am best satisfied, reach as far as I have designed here to go, and did not I think the strain of some too high for many of you, and the words and expressions of others that I have seen in your hands, too low and flat, or too obsolete and improper, and which will rather offend than edify such as have their senses better exercised in these matters :) I have come to the resolution of adding my contribution to the common stock : yet, not taking upon me so to correct or censure them that have gone before me, as to discourage any from making use of those helps which they find agreeable to their case, and efficacious to quicken their devotion :

But leaving every one to consult their own sense, and profit and comfort in choosing and taking what best likes their particular gust and what most furthers their pious designs ; and to make what alterations also they please, even in the ensuing offices, for their own service if they shall think fit to use them at all.

Nor have I such a conceit of any thing that is my own, as to suppose it free from the weakness and defects which I can espy elsewhere ; I doubt not but others may find as many faults here : Nay, I cannot think any thing of this nature to be so complete, but that the Author himself (in tract of time) may see reason to add or subtract, to alter or amend many particulars : Indeed, I shall as soon expect to see a shoe made to fit every foot, as a particular Form of Prayer exactly to suit all the circumstances of every soul.

I cannot undertake that the following Prayers should answer all the occasions which any one may ever find for prayer : But they that have the spirit of supplication, can tell how to fill up what is wanting : And such as I help in most cases, may help themselves in the rest. I am rather apt to think, that so many as are here set down, will be censured for more than needful ; but (it being easy to pare off) the censors may let alone what they count superfluous ; leaving it to those that will not disdain its assistance ; and I had rather be under an *imputation* from some of my neighbors, for *bulying myself* more than I have need, in a
wor

n work that might have been spared, than bear
d the recoilings of my own mind for neglecting
t to impart any thing that I thought might be
d of use and service to the rest.

n If any judge that I might better have left
e this behind me, not to be seen till I should
myself have been no more seen : I was once
at of the same mind, and had so continued ; but
e that I could not be sure, that many for whom
I designed it, might not be taken off before me ;
ts whereby this piece of friendship which I had
is for them, would have been lost to them : And
ne now that I do undertake the thing which is
o liable to many reflections, (whoever be the
manager) every one thinking he has a title to
judge of that wherein every one is equally
concerned ; and that judgment passing accord-
ing to the different principles and sentiments,
and the particular genius and humour of each,
'tis not possible here to please every one : But
however, I shall not fail of my design, if I can
be so happy as to profit some. And if so be I
take any way peculiar to myself, I shall only
alledge, that it is but the same liberty as most
writers of this subject have taken. Though I
pretend not to set myself on a level with
the noted guides of others devotion, that with
good success, and general approbation, have
laboured herein, yet when our Lord has only
enjoined the thing to be done, without set-
tling the manner of performance ; even an
ordinary man, that is but conversant in these
matters, *has room* humbly to propose his own
A 4 experience,

experience, as long as he assumes not materially to impose it upon his readers ; in this present undertaking, the Judge's thoughts knows to be far from mine.

I name no morning and evening prayer particular persons, because here are so many occasional prayers, whereof every one take their choice from time to time, for private use, according to particular exigencies ; and besides, those for families may as fitly be for the closet, changing but the plural into the singular. I have not directed to conclude the evening devotions with the *I* Prayer ; not because I count it improper that time to be used, but because I think I have still a liberty of adding or omitting, and therefore I have pointed to it for one of the day, and left it out in the other ; they that are for it, as an appendage to all prayers used in their houses, may make use of it if they please, notwithstanding that I shut out some of the family prayers without it. I make no distinction neither of ordinary days ; I understand not why the prayer that serves Monday or Tuesday, should not be as useful and proper for any other day of the week. I have offered some variety, that you may take sometimes one form, and sometimes another ; or some part of this form and some other, that, as you see occasion, and shall judge pertinent.

But I make a great difference of the quality of persons, and states of the soul, and se-

of the life ; according to which, I have distributed and suited the offices here proposed.— And though it be not needful to adapt a prayer to every man's particular employment in the world ; yet no man, (whatever be his place and calling) but may find many prayers here fitted to the condition of his soul, and to the great emergencies of his life. Only I would caution any who may need to be so advertised, that I do not intend the particular prayers entitled for such and such persons, of particular ranks and stations, as their excuse to supersede all praying else, as if such persons needed to use no other prayers ; but those, over and above, they may sometimes add to the rest : And so prudently choosing agreeable offices, and so taking this my whole performance, with a little of Christian candour, and the allowance for common weakness, I am willing to hope it may not be unacceptable to those in my neighbourhood (for whom I am chiefly concerned) as coming from one of your acquaintance, my brethren, and one not so utterly unacquainted with the practice and the benefit of such exercises of devotion : but that I am able to say somewhat from my own experience (and that of many years) in this way. However small (I must confess) is my proficiency, to what it might have been ; yet the several stages that my soul has gone through ; the trials and temptations that I have had ; and terrors and perplexities wherewith I have grappled ; the conflicts and troubles of mind

that I have lain under, the many sins that I have fallen into, (greivous to myself, and heinous in the sight of God, though not so scandalous as some others, to the view of the world ;) and the escapes that I have made, the preservations and deliverances, the mercies and blessings, the revivings and comforts, that I have found ; are so many enticements to me, and so many engagements upon me, to do somewhat according to the ability which God hath given me, for the direction, the support, and help of others, that may be in the like condition. And may the thing here done be but well taken by any that fear God (the generation of them that seek his face, and are in love with prayer!) I shall then little concern myself what's the resentment or censure of any one else ; whether it be the worldly drudge, the sordid earth-worm, that throws prayers out of doors, as his interruption and hindrance ; or the dissolute epicure, that takes pleasure in nothing but his mire, and shrinks from drawing nigh to the Holy God, as his hated task and torment ; or the profane droll, that even laughs his Judge Eternal in the face, and mightily applauds himself, for daring to make a scorn of all that is serious and sacred ; or the trifling impertinent, that is for all manner of exercises, but only those of religion ; or lastly, the formal hypocrite, that only now and then passes a slight compliment on the Majesty of Heaven, but still mortally hates the life and power of godliness. The sense
and

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and the satisfaction of one pious experienced Christian, that has known the grace of God in truth, is more to me than the exceptions and the clamours of a thousand such as these.

If this piece fly further abroad than my first intention ; and if others, that know nothing of what concerns me, may pick out any thing here to further them in the way heaven-ward, I shall have the more cause then to bless God, for making me such an instrument of his grace. Yea, where I can but do the least good to any poor soul, I shall not think my labour in vain in the Lord. But my great care is for the souls of whom I have the charge ; and for the rest of my friends and neighbours within my reach, whom I have (you know) so much and often importuned and called upon to give themselves to prayer, both in your families, and in your retirements every day. Not barely to read, or say over so many words of prayer (as if it would presently make all whole and well, only to use such or such a form, that you think pertinent to your case, as a plaister fit for the sore) but to do it with a praying heart, with a mind intent upon the work, and your spirits engaged in his service. The reasons for which, and the necessity of it, with the lawfulness and expediency of using forms (especially where other abilities are wanting) I shall not insist upon here ; because I have done it already elsewhere.

Liberty of
Prayer asserted,
&c.

Indeed, what some talk so much against a Forms of Prayer, I think, is as little to be regarded as what others do so bitterly inveig against all prayer that is out of Form ; but in this matter I cannot but much approve the temper of an eminent churchman (afterwards made one of our right Rev. Bishops) who in his method and order for private devotion thus freely and moderately gives his sense :

Bishop Witenball [Enter into thy Closet,] 3d. Edit.

P. 62. ‘ Whether every particular expression, or the just words before-thought, is happily matters not very much ; but that some fit, significant, proper, and quickening expressions for the several parts and substantial of my prayer be prepared, it is expedient.’—P. 81. ‘ I profess myself no whit guilty of undervaluing the free effusions of the soul before God (in private especially in such expressions as the affected moved mind suggests ; or, as the spirit gives utterance.’—P. 284. ‘ If I am able to pray otherwise, I shall not haply always see it fit, or convenient, to use set or composed forms for that there may be many particular affecting circumstances in my sins, which no form will express so plainly as I have need to express them for the moving of my sorrow.—P. 285. ‘ If I find my heart ready, and so composed, that I dare venture upon what we call a convinced prayer, ~~it~~ being of my own invention, by the assistance of the Spirit
‘ may

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'may more perfectly suit my condition in all, than one framed by another to my hand.'—P. 81, 82. 'Though constantly to use that way, may make our devotion more slight and disorderly, through the coldness, dulness, or heedlessness of our heart, or through distractions, incumbrances, or like mischiefs : and it may often occasion the omission of many necessary things, through incogitancy, and unavoidable forgetfulness.'—P. 8. 'But whether the words in which we utter ourselves, be forethought or sudden, provided they fitly and reverently express the inward sense of our hearts, it matters not ; nor is it at all essential to prayer.'—P. 81. 'Be the words whose they will, my praying them (i. e. offering them up to God) with a heart suitable to them, hath made them as much mine, as if I had invented, contrived, dictated, or penned them at first.'

The manner then of expressing yourselves in my words, or in your own, or others, I leave (as here this author does) at liberty : and any helps that I have offered, in the following specimens, you may take or refuse, as you see good : only I must with all earnestness, beseech you to take care, and to make conscience that the thing be daily done, and that heartily, as to the Lord : as ever you hope to reap any real good from the labours of your ministers, or ever to see their faces, or the face of God with comfort in that great day, when we must

A a

all

all give up our last accounts, and be finally determined for our everlasting state. Whom such as could not be prevailed with to get themselves to prayer, and to call upon the name of God, now in the day of grace, (this time of mercy) shall with fruitless desires, with themselves out of being; and no less vainly, though desperately, call upon rocks and mountains to fall upon them, and to hide them from his face, and to save them from his wrath in the day of judgment, that time of recompence and fury. And, therefore, according to that most urgent admonition of the author of the *Whole Duty of Man*, Part 5. Sect. 12. ‘ Let no man that professes himself a Christian, keep a heathenish a family, as not to see that God be daily worshipped in it.’ To which, I have that be added of the other author afore quoted P. 15. ‘ Prayer with the family, no one who would have God to bless his family could think that he may neglect.’ And I shall give no further exhortation here to family prayer; * because I have done so much for that purpose since the first edition hereof, in another book written upon that particular argument.

Beloved, I am more sensible of my own frailty, than to reckon upon a much longer continuance in the world (which we all shall find to be so short a thoroughfare to the place of our eternal abode :) and while I live, desire

* The bell rung to prayers,

desire nothing more from you, than the consolation of observing your devotion, and striving together with me in your prayers for your own salvation. And when I am dead and gone, I would leave behind me, not only some token of my love to you ; but also some assistance in that way of your duty, wherein you are to follow those who are already entered into the heavenly glory.

I am apt to think, that some who are convinced of this duty (to use daily prayers) and who also feel an inclination to it, and some disposedness for it in their hearts, may yet be under a discouragement for want of suitable helps in a readiness to discharge the work.— For such, alas ! is the dulness and indifferency of sinful men to that which is best for them, and which most highly concerns them, that they are not apt to be solicitous (so as they use to show themselves in their worldly concerns) to seek out after the provisions and conveniences for the spiritual life, unless these fall directly in their way, and are set just before them. And, therefore, this prayer-book I have had in my thoughts to provide, and put into the hands of some of the poorer sort ; and (without imposing upon any) I would also move such able friends as may favour the design, to lend a charitable hand in assisting to furnish more of these poor creatures, who, by the help of such a gift, might be put in a way to get the best and greatest riches ; but I

shall not offer to disturb any that are in possession of better means already ; no, let them go on with the use of them, and God blessing be upon them : and if but any thing here should be found agreeable and useful to others, they are at liberty to collect and take what they will, and pass over the rest. (as the celebrated Dr. Hammond tells [Prat. Cat. Lib. 3. Sect. 2. Ans. 5.] ‘ the church being obeyed in the observation of the prescribed Liturgy in public, it is supposed by our church, but that every man in private may ask his own wants in what form of words he shall think fit : yet, though he may do it fitly and reverently, it will be amiss for him to acquaint himself with the several addresses to God which the Books of Psalms, and other parts of Holy Writ, and other helps of devotion, will afford him either to use, as he finds them fit for his present purpose, or by those patterns to direct and prepare himself to do the like.’

Now, may this poor attempt of mine be an invitation to some of my pious and learned brethren in the ministry, to set out some better entertainment for their people ; and may they be abundantly satisfied and pleased to see the thing promoted, and still further improved ; though my whole performance should be vacate and excluded, to make room for others deserving the precedence. In the meantime, may a blessing from above follow the
In

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all endeavours of mine, and make them
prosperous (in any measure) to help your de-
votion : and that you may in the use of any
ayers here set before you, find some advan-
ge to your souls, and the daily promotion of
our sanctification, peace and salvation, is the
truest desire and prayer of

Your devoted servant

in the Work of our Lord,

B. J.



P O S T S C R I P T

, T O T H E

R E A D E R S.

BESIDES the addition of some pray here (more than were in the first impression) which you will find marked with asterisk in the Contents ; these latter editions do give me the opportunity of making so corrections to my own (and I hope also others) better satisfaction ; yet have I held hand from altering much, lest the book should now appear another thing than before, to offence of any that have been purchasers the other ; but the perusers who are observant may perceive here so many corrections : amendments, as will give some advantage such as shall think fit to make themselves owners of this.

I should have enlarged the forms for families in several parts, especially in those pertaining to the confessions of sin ; which (as an excellent bishop of this church, upon the survey of this book, according to his wise and humble piety, was pleased to give me his sense need more to be insisted upon than common we find ; but that I feared such enlargement of the prayers might hinder many families

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from using them at all : and though now I was solicited again, to hasten another review, in order to the impression, more additions you might have seen throughout the book ; but that I should thus have made it too chargeable for some pockets, and too bulky for any.

The many emendations, therefore, which intelligent perusers may observe in this new edition will not add either to the size or price ; but only make some things more smooth and easy to those of inferior capacity ; and the intermixture of many more words here than formerly, now set in the Italic letter, may not only brighten the page, but better engage the attention, and quicken the sense of common readers.

May it please God to give the perusers of these helps serious minds and praying hearts, the good intention, and fervent devotion, to make the fuel here prepared flame on the altar : and when thy soul, reader, is so raised heavenward, send up one kind petition for his saving mercy on the poor unworthy Author.

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P R A Y E R S

AND

Offices of Devotion.

*A Prayer for Devotion, and a Right Frame of
Spirit in the Worship of God.*

O MOST High and Holy, Blessed and
Glorious Lord my God ! Thou wilt be
sanctified in them that come nigh thee ; and
thou art greatly to be feared, and to be had
in continual reverence of all that are about
thee. Be pleased to sanctify my heart with
thy *grace*, that I may sanctify the Lord God
in my *heart* ; and so draw nigh unto thee, that
thou mayest draw nigh unto me : and in such
manner pour out my heart before thee, that
thou mayest pour down thy heavenly blessings
and *favours* upon me.

B

I desire

I desire, O my God, to meet thee in th
ways : and (in compliance with thy gracious
appointment) I fall down and worship here :
thy footstool, in the name and mediation
thy dear Son. For how unworthy am I
come into thy holy presence ! And how unab
(of myself) to perform any duties of service
meet to be rendered unto the heavenly Majesty
O let thy great *mercy* overlook my unworth
ness ; and (by thy powerful grace) keep m
from every *offensive* thing that would make m
prayers sin and *abomination* to the Lord. As
as thou hast made me sensible of my duty, an
of my own insufficiency to discharge it as
ought, so may the good *spirit* help my infir
mities, and increase my abilities for thy se
vice ; that (without sinful dulness or distrac
tions) I may worship thee in *spirit and in truth*
and serve thee with reverence and godly fear
yea, with all readiness and love, and delight
in approaching unto God.

Instruct me, gracious Lord, in the knowledge
of thy *will* ; and assist me in the way of m
duty : that I may both understand what is th
pleasure concerning me ; and also may fir
grace sufficient to perform it. O make m
such a spiritual worshipper as thou dost *seek*
and my service such a spiritual sacrifice as thou
wilt *accept*.

Help me, my strength and my Redeeme
to offer up my *heart* and *myself*, together wi
my prayers and addresses unto thee : that
may not be rash with my mouth, nor hasty

my heart, to utter any thing rudely before thee; nor draw nigh to thee, with lips and body, when my *heart* is far from thee: but that heart and soul, and all that is *within me*, may be taken up in a devout, and faithful, and affectionate *attendance* upon thee.

And thou that *bearest* prayers, O *quicken* me, that I may call upon thy *name*. And let me receive such *grace* from thee, as may enable me to perform *acceptable* service unto thee; through the *beloved* of my soul, my only Saviour and prevailing Advocate Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Family Prayer, in the Order of our Lord's Prayer.

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ by eternal generation: the Father of all things, by temporal creation: and the Father of thy people, by adoption and spiritual regeneration! what manner of love this is, that we, (of *rebels* against heaven, *slaves* of Satan, and *children of wrath*) shall be made the children of the Most High, and heirs of everlasting glory! We are thine, O Lord, for thou hast made us out of nothing, and looked upon us in our blood, to set us up again, after we had destroyed ourselves. Thou art in heaven] O that we may in heart and mind, thither ascend; and with all lowliness worship at the footstool of thy glorious Majesty. Thou art our Father:] O that we may with trust and delight (as children)

dren) draw nigh unto thee : who hast all fullness both of power and mercy, to do for us. And may we also love as *bretbren*, and still hold together as dear children of the same *heavenly* Father.

And O that all the world may give thee our God the *glory* due to thy great *name* !] that thou mayest be more known, and feared, and loved, and honoured, by us, and by all men, as our supreme Lord, and as our chiefest good : that we may *glorify* thee as we ought, in our thoughts and desires, and in our words and ways !

O that the *kingdom* of sin and Satan may be still more and more weakened, till they be utterly destroyed ! That all the powers on earth may use for thee the *authority* which they have received from thee ! That all the *kingdoms* of the world may become the *kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ ; and Jerusalem be made the joy and praise of the whole earth ! O that Christ may dwell and *rule* in our hearts by his spirit and grace ; and make us a *willing people*, the faithful subjects of his holy *kingdom* ; and still reign over us here, till we are made fit to live and reign with him and all his redeemed, in the heavenly glory forever. O thou blessed and only Potentate ! let thy *kingdom come*,] so powerfully into us, that thy *will may be done* still faithfully and cheerfully by us.

And may thy *will* and word, O Lord, and *the way* of thy salvation, be every where known *upon earth*. Let the light of thy gospel shine
and

and prevail, and win more *profelites* daily throughout the world. O send the means of *grace*, where they are not : and make them prosperous and successful where they are. Let the will of the word and will of our God, be the rule of our lives, to guide and sway us in all our ways. Make us more *conformable* to thy will in all that thou requirest of us ; and more *submissive* to thy will in all that thou layest upon us. Yea, makē us pleased with what ever is thy *pleasure* ; and greatly to *love* thy word, and *delight* to do thy will, and joyfully and cheerfully to serve thee : as thy glorious *angels* and saints above, whose heaven it is to please and enjoy the Lord.

And, till we are fitted for the better glorious life to come, give us, O Father, (of thy gracious bounty) all things *needful* and *convenient* for our present being here. Preserve us from all the snares and dangers that attend both the *prosperous* and the *afflicted* case. When we have this world's *good*, O that we may use it wisely and piously, to thy glory : and, whenever thou takest it from us, make us contented, and patient, and thankful ; and the more intent upon that good, which shall never be taken away. O good God ! we beg, That still we may be in that state of *body* which thou knowest to be best for our *souls* ; and that all which we have in this life, may tend and help to speed us to the blessed life immortal.

We are ashamed and sorry that we have so much and so long dishonored thy blessed name,

name, disobeyed they holy word, and abused thy rich mercy. We desire to return, and to be reconciled to our God ; to be humble and penitent for our sins, and to entreat thy gracious favour, in Jesus Christ, for the pardon of them. *Forgive us*] we beseech thee, O Father of mercies (for his sake) all the sins that ever we have committed against thee : especially we beg to be discharged from those *wasting* and *presumptuous* sins, committed against the strivings of thy spirit and the checks of our own enlightened minds, that have made the saddest breaches upon our *peace*, and filled our souls with the dread of thy *wrath*. O give us tokens for good, to persuade and *assure* our hearts that thou hast such mercy in store for us. And incline our hearts, *O Lord, to forgive,*] and to be merciful, as we need to be *forgiven*, and as we desire to obtain mercy.

And, that iniquities may not prevail against us, to spoil us for the future, *subdue* them, O God of all grace, by the power of thy holy spirit ; and never suffer us to be *tempted* above the strength wherewith thy grace shall supply us. Make us wary to avoid all the *temptations*] we can, and strong in the Lord to *overcome* what we must encounter. We are poor frail creatures : but thou, O Lord Almighty, art stronger than the strong one : O do thou *protect* us, (we beseech thee) by thy powerful aids : and so keep us from falling, that we may never be made a *prey* to the cruel *murderer* of souls ; nor be delivered into those bitter pains

pains of *eternal death*, which are the sad wages of our sins ; but may find a way to escape every *snare*, and be preserved safe to thy heavenly kingdom.

Thine is the Kingdom :] O Lord most high ! thou art the King of all the world : and happy are they who are under the conduct of thy good spirit, as the willing subjects of thy spiritual kingdom. We desire and beg that we may all be found of that number. Save, Lord, and let the King of heaven hear us when we call.

We ask great things at thy hands, but not too great for the Almighty God to grant : for *thine is the power :*] and thou art able to do for us exceeding *abundantly*, even above all that we ask or think : O reveal thy glorious *arm* to do the things worthy of God, which none but thy blessed Self can do ; in forgiving and healing, and helping us, who have undone ourselves, and are hopeless, and *helpless*, in ourselves.

Thine is the glory :] O God ; and such are the wonders of thy grace, to get thee *glory* in the salvation of those that were *lost*.

Therefore, though we are exceedingly *guilty* and utterly unworthy : yet we do pray and hope, that thou wilt *glorify* thy mercy, to remember us in our low estate : and to relieve us in all our wants and streights, who forsake every refuge else to come to thee, O blessed God, alone ; and have all our expectation from thee ; and have all our dependance upon thee ; *trusting* only in thy gracious goodness,

Morning Prayer.

through the all-sufficient merits and mediation of our blessed Redeemer ; and looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life

And to thee, O great and glorious Lord our God, whose *kingdom* ruleth over all ; to thee who doest whatever thou *pleasest* in heaven and in earth : to thee who shewest forth all thy *glory* to the blessed that are in thy presence, and glory in the highest, and all thanks and praise ascribed of us, and of all the world, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Morning Prayer for a Family.

O LORD, the blessed God of our salvation ! thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth, upon whom the eyes of all do wait for thou givest unto all life, and breath, and all things. In thee we ever *live*, and *move*, and *are* ; and upon thee we continually do depend for all the good that ever we have, or hope for. Still thou takest care of us, and watchest for good over us ; even in our rest and *sleep*, when we have not so much as any *thoughts* of caring for ourselves : and daily thou renewest to us our *lives*, and thy *mercies* : every morning giving us *new occasions* still for thy *praise*, and our thankfulness. And thou hast given us the assurance of thy *word*, That if we commit our *affairs* to thee, and acknowledge thee in all our *ways*, thou wilt *establish* our thoughts and *direct* our path. And therefore we desire O Lord, still to put ourselves under thy gracious *conduct*.

conduct, and thy fatherly protection ; and to beg the heavenly guidance and blessing, and assistance of thy good *spirit*, to choose our *inheritance* for us ; and to dispose of us and of all that concern us, to the glory of thy name.

O Lord, withdraw not thy *tender mercies* from us, nor the comforts of thy *presence*, nor the assistance of thy *spirit* ; for our great contempt and manifold abuses of all such grace and goodness. Never punish our past sins, by giving us over to the *love* and *power* of our *sins* : but give us true *penitent hearts* for all the evils committed by us ; and thy *merciful discharge* from all the guilt that lies upon us. And grant us O good God the comfortable sense and apprehension of thy gracious *acceptance* of us, and thy merciful *intentions* towards us, in the *Son* of thy love, the Lover of our souls : that our souls may *bless* thee, and all that is within us may *praise thy holy name*.

And O that we may find the *joy* of the Lord to be our *strength*, to enable us against our sins ; especially *to* the sins to which we are most *addicted*, and whereof we are in greatest *danger* : and to make us also more *ready* to every good work, and better *disposed* for all the duties of piety, justice, charity, and sobriety, which we owe to thee our God, to our neighbour, and ourselves : that herein we may *exercise* ourselves to have always the conscience void of *offence* towards God, and towards men. O help us to walk *circumspectly*, not as fools, but as *wise* ; carefully *redeeming* the time that

we have lost, and conscientiously improving all those seasons, and means of grace, which thou art pleased to put into our hands, for the best profit and advantage of our *souls*. And while we are upon earth, O give us all things needful and convenient for our present *pilgrimage* : and *sanctify* to us all our enjoyments, and all estates that we go through, and all events that now befall us ; till, through the merits of thy Son, and the multitude of thy *mercies*, we are conducted safe to be *ever with the Lord*. Amidst all our other affairs in this world, O let us never forget or neglect the *one thing needful* ; but be in greatest care so to demean ourselves every day, as may forward our comfortable accounts in the great day of thy *appearing* and *glory*.

O gracious Father ! keep us, we beseech thee, this day in thy fear and favour ; and help us to live to thy honour and glory. If thou guide us not, we shall run into *errors* ; if thou preserve us not, we shall fall into *dangers* : O let thy good *providence* be our defence and security : and let thy *holy spirit* be our guide and counsellor in all our ways. And grant that we may take the ways and courses agreeable to thy will, and acceptable in thy sight, through Jesus Christ : in whose sacred name and words, we close up these our imperfect requests to thee, Our Father, &c.

Let thy grace, O Lord Jesus Christ, thy love, O *heavenly* Father, thy comfortable fellowship, O *holy blessed Spirit*, be with us, and with all *whom* we ought to beg thy mercy for in our *prayers*, this day, and for evermore. Amen.

Another Morning Prayer for a Family.

O LORD, thou art the God, whose we are, and whom we ought to serve, with all the endowments and abilities for thy service, wherewith thou hast blessed us. For thou hast laid upon us all the obligations of thy *laws*, and all the endearments of thy *love*, to be faithful in the *covenant* of our God, and to abound in the *work* of the Lord. But we desire to humble our sinful selves here before thee, that our lives have been so *unserviceable* to thee, and so full of *provocation* against thee : that the dishonour which we have done thee, O Lord, has by many degrees, exceeded all the service : that we have lived to *ourselves*, more than to the Lord and Giver of our lives ; and have served our own lusts and pleasures more than thy holy blessed *will* ; which is the rule of all righteousness, and in the performance whereof there is the greatest *reward*. O how have we disbelieved thy truths, disobeyed thy commands, disregarded thy promises and threats ! and resisted and defeated all thy gracious methods to reclaim us from the evil of our ways, and to bring us over entirely to thyself.

We have sinned against thee our God, to the infinite wrong and *damage* of our own souls ; and by our sins we have spoiled and destroyed ourselves ; but it is not in us to recover and save ourselves. No : in thee alone is all our help.

help. Yea, Thou hast laid help upon
 that is *mighty*, and able to save to the uttermost
 all that come to God, through him : through
 whom thou hast encouraged us to come boldly
 to the *throne of grace*, that we may obtain *mercy*,
 and find *grace* to help in time of our need.
 In him therefore, we beg, Lord, that thou
 wilt be *reconciled* to us, and at *peace* with us,
 as a Father of mercies, and a God of consolation.

And for his sake, enable us also (we beseech
 thee) to demean ourselves as becomes the children
 of God, the redeemed of the Lord, and the
 members and followers of Jesus Christ. Put
 such *principles* of grace and holiness in
 our hearts, as may make us to hate all iniquity,
 and every false way. And put thy spirit
 within us, causing us to walk in thy statutes,
 and to keep thy judgments, and to do thy will.
 Nor only lay thy commands upon us ; but
 pleased, O Lord, to *enable* us for the performance
 of every *duty* required of us. And engage
 our hearts to thyself, that we may make
 it our *meat* and *drink* to do thy will ; and
 enlarged *hearts*, run the way of thy commandments.
 O make our services acceptable to thee while
 we live, and our souls ready for thee when
 we die. And as long as we are in this world,
 keep us, O Lord our God, from the evil of
 sin, and from the snares and dangers which thou
 knowest we are continually exposed to in
 this world. O make our *passage* safe and sure,
 through *the changes*, troubles, temptations, and various
conditions of this mortal life, to the
 change

changeable glories and felicities, of life everlasting.

Be merciful to us, good Lord, and bless us, and keep us this day, in all our ways, and in all our lawful designs and undertakings : and may we take nothing in hand, but what is warranted by thy word. O let us be in the fear of the Lord, all the day long : let thy fear be ever before our eyes to restrain us from the things *provoking to our God, and destructive to our souls*. And let thy love abound in our hearts, and sweetly and powerfully constrain us to all faithful and cheerful obedience, acceptable in thy sight, through him that hath loved and redeemed us ; even *the Lord our righteousness* ; in whose blessed name, and the words of prayer which himself has taught us, we continue praying, Our Father, &c.

The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be with us, and with all that belong to us, this day, and for evermore. *Amen.*

A third Morning Prayer.

O LORD God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth ! Thou keepest *mercy* for thousands, *pardonest* iniquity, transgression and sin ; and doth not *retain* thy anger for ever, because thou delightest in *mercy*. How excellent is thy *loving-kindness*, O God ! Therefore do the sons of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. *And therefore do we desire still to look*

up to that bountiful *hand* of thine, from whence we evermore have received all our good things. O Lord our God ! be thou pleased to look down mercifully upon us, and be gracious and favorable to us, as thou usest to be unto those that *love* thy name. O look not upon the sins of our *nature*, nor the sins of our hearts and lives which are more than we can remember, and greater than we can express ; and such as make us seem vile, even in our own eyes, and highly guilty before thy holy Majesty, that is of the Lord's *mercies* we are not consumed because thy compassions fail not. But behold us in mercy, through the merits and mediation of thy Son our Saviour, who did not sin and was manifested that he might take away our sins : by whom it is, that we have the access to the Majesty on high, and encouragement to come into thy presence, to ask what we need, and what thou aboundest with, and art enclined to make thy poor creature happy in the enjoyment of.

And seeing there is in Christ Jesus an infiniteness of all that ever we can want or will to make us *holy*, and to make us most *blessed* eternally : O that we may all receive of his fullness grace sufficient for us : to *pardon* our sins, and *subdue* our iniquities ; to *justify* our persons, and to *sanctify* our souls ; and to complete upon our hearts and lives that holy *regenerating* change, which may still more and more transform us into the blessed *image* after which thou didst create us ; and make us like

more *meet* to be partakers of the inheritance of thy *saints* in light.

And teach us, O Lord our God, to use this world without abusing it, and to enjoy the things of it, without losing our part in thy *love*, which is better than life. Whatever we have of the world, O may we have the same with thy leave and love, *sanctified* to us by the word of God, and prayer; and by the right employment and improvement thereof to thy glory, who art the gracious Giver of all our good things. And whatsoever we want of the things of this life, O Lord our heavenly Father, leave us not destitute of any of those things that *accompany salvation*, but adorn our souls with all such *graces* of thy Holy Spirit, as may enable us to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things, by such a *conversation* as does become it.

Help us, O gracious Lord, in the whole of our duty to thee our God; and also in the discharge of all relative duties which we owe to *men*, whether superiors, equals, or inferiors (all with whom we have our conversation in the world :) that we may walk wisely toward them that are *without*, and kindly toward them that are *within*; and not be justly offensive unto any; but (what in us lies) *useful* and *beneficial* to all. And thus let us pass the time of our sojourning here, in thy fear and favour, and to thy honour and glory; that at our last review thereof, thy name may have the *praise*, and our souls the comfort, in the

hour of *death*, and in the great *day* of Lord Jesus Christ.

And now that thou hast *renewed* our *life* and thy *mercies* to this morning, help us, O God, to renew our desires, and resolutions, and endeavours, to live in the *obedience* of thy *will*, and to the *honour* of thy blessed name. O *restrain* us from the evils and follies in which we are prone to fall; and quicken us to the offices and duties which we are *bound* to perform. And grant that we may think and speak, and will and do, the things *becoming* the *children* of our heavenly Father, and so find the strong consolation of thy *gracious acceptance* in Jesus Christ our Saviour, who, when we pray, has taught us to say, O Father, &c.

A fourth Morning Prayer.

O LORD God, that *bearest* prayers, and art *nigh* to all that call upon thee in truth, having thy ears open to a world of creatures, that continually depend upon thee. As we are moved by our own *necessities*, so we are encouraged by the daily *experience* of thy mercies still to shelter ourselves under the shadow of thy wings, and to continue our *prayers* and supplications at the *throne* of thy *grace*. And we beg of thee, who fashionest all *hearts* of the sons of men, that thou wilt *pare* our hearts to come into thy holy presence, and to call upon thy blessed name, in a

and *acceptable* manner. O! pour upon us the spirit of *grace* and of *supplications*; and let thy good Spirit help our *infirmities*, and teach us to *pray*, and to ask such things, and in such a way, as shall be most agreeable to thy will, and most advantageous to our souls.

We have taken upon us to speak unto thee, the Sovereign Majesty of heaven and earth, who are but poor worms, and sinful dust and ashes; that have too just cause to be afraid, lest our great and manifold sins had *provoked* thee to hide thy face from us, and to shut up thy loving kindness in displeasure against us. For we have done foolishly and wickedly, in not hearkening to the calls of thy *word*, nor yielding to the motions of thy Spirit, to walk in the ways which thou hast set before us. Our *iniquities* are increased over our heads, our *trespass* is grown even up to heaven, and our sins are a sore *burden*, too grievous and heavy for us to bear. They are infinite debts, and sad accounts; for which if thou, O Lord, shouldst enter into judgment with us, we could not answer thee *one of a thousand*: but must lay our hands upon our mouths, and plead nothing but *guilty*, having our whole dependance upon thy *mercy*.

O God be *merciful* to us, miserable sinners, for his sake, whom thou hast exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give *repentance* to thy people, and *forgiveness* of their sins: be merciful to us, we pray thee, and *heal* our souls, that have greatly sinned against thee. O heal
our

our *backslidings*, renew us to *repentance*, establish our hearts in thy true fear and love, and establish our *goings* in thy holy ways ; that we may not be so wavering and bent to backsliding, nor revolt from thee to return to *folly*, after thou in mercy hast spoken *peace* to our souls ; but may go on conquering and to conquer all the enemies of our *souls*, and all the hindrances of our *salvation*, till Satan be bruised under our feet.

O thou God of all grace ! bring such thoughts to our *minds*, and lay such considerations home powerfully upon our *hearts*, as thou knowest most effectual to prevail with us, to work us in thy *will*, and to keep us from our *iniquity*, within the bounds of our *duty*, till thou receive us into the blessed kingdom of thy *glory*. And, in the mean time, sanctify to us all thy *dealings* with us ; and bless us in all our undertakings, and in all our conditions, fruitions and relations. Make us *humble* in an high estate, *contented* in a low, and still duly *careful* of our souls in all : following after the things now which will bring us true *peace* and *comfort* at the last.

Dispose of us, we beseech thee (our God) and of all that concerns us this day, to the *glory* of thy name. O keep us at all times, and in all places and companies, from the evil of *sin*, and from all other *evils*, to which the greatness of our sins does make us liable. And take thou, O heavenly Father, the gracious charge, and guidance, and government
of

of us ; and so lead us here in all our ways,
with thy *counsel*, that hereafter thou mayest
receive us into thy *glory* ; through thy tender
mercies, and our Saviour's abundant merits :
in whose own words, we beg all things needful
for ourselves and others, at thy hands.

Our Father, &c.

A fifth Morning Prayer.

O LORD our God ! thy name is most excellent in all the *earth* : thou hast set up thy glory above the *heavens*, and thou art worthy to be celebrated with everlasting praises of *men* and *angels* : for thou hast created all things and for thy pleasure it is that they are and were created. Thy hands, O Lord, have made us and fashioned us, and thou hast breathed into our nostrils the breath of *life* : yea, still thou holdest our souls in life, and givest us every good thing that makes our lives a *blessing* and a *comfort* to us. Thou hast formed us for *thyself*, that we should shew forth thy *praise*, and live to thy *glory*, as we do continually live upon thy *bounty*.

But, O Lord *our* God ! we have not brought thee the glory which thou hast made us *capable* of, and so many ways *obliged* us to : instead of that, O how greatly have we *dishonoured* thee our God, in the whole course and conduct of our lives ! Time after time, *forgetting* our gracious Giver of all our good things, who art *never unmindful* of us : And O how soon have

we been weary to do thee *service*, who art never weary to do us *good* ! Yea, we have not only *neglected* thy work, but have been *disobedient* against thy word, and have taken bold liberties, to go on after our own foolish and hurtful lusts, in such ways of living as thy laws and our own hearts disallow and *condemn* us for.

And for these things we desire to pour out our hearts, and to humble our sinful selves here before thee ; entreating thy gracious *service*, for the sake of that mercy of thine in Christ Jesus, which has moved thee to spare us so long, and to do so much for us already, that thou wilt be pleased to give us *repentance* and *pardon* for all that is past, wherein we have offended thee ; whether in omitting of our duty, or failing in it, or doing contrary to it. However we have transgressed, O humble us duly under the *sense* of it ; and for thy dear Son's sake, absolve us thoroughly from the *guilt* of it.

And strengthen us, good Lord, with might by the Spirit *in the inner man*, to make us more *watchful* against, and more *victorious* over the corruption of our *nature*, the temptations of the Devil, and the distractions and allurements of this sinful *world*, wherein we live. O destroy in us every *vicious inclination*, every *evil habit*, and *rebellious motion*, that exalts itself against the *knowledge of God*, and against the *obedience* of our Lord Jesus Christ. And increase and confirm in us, still more and more, thy true knowledge and faith, and fear, and love ; and

every grace of thy holy Spirit, which thou knowest to be most wanting in us, and necessary for us : such as may make our lives still more *comfortable* to ourselves, more *profitable* to others, and more to the *glory* of thy name. And however it goes with us, as to the concerns of this present time, O that we may still be found in the way of our *duty*, fearing God, and working righteousness ; that we may secure our *interest* in the great Saviour of the world, so that when all here shall fail us, thou mayest take us up, and *be the strength of our hearts, and our portion for evermore.*

Day by day we magnify thee, O Lord, who makest every day (of our *lives*) still a further addition to thy *mercies*. We bless thee for our last *night's* preservation and protection, and for the rest and refreshment which thou hast given us therein. O cause us to hear thy loving kindness in the *morning*, for in thee do we trust ; cause us to know the way wherein we shall go, for we lift up our souls to thee. Cast us not away from thy *presence* ; take not thy *holy spirit* from us ; but *direct* all our ways to please thee our God, that thou mayest crown us with *blessing* and good *success*. Help us to see thy *power*, to own thy *presence*, to admire thy *wisdom*, and to love thy goodness in all thy *creatures*. And by all the comforts of *creatures*, O draw our hearts still nearer to thyself, the blessed Creator of every comfort ; and let our meditations of God be *sweet* as well as *frequent*, that *delighting* ourselves in the Lord, thou mayest

est give unto us the desires of our hearts. Such thy mercy and grace we beg for ourselves, and all ours, and thine, every where, in our great Mediator's form of *prayer*, Our Father, &c.

A sixth Morning Prayer.

WE do here present ourselves this morning before thy heavenly glorious Majesty, most blessed Lord our God, with the desire of our souls, to pay unto thee tribute of homage and service, and prayer, praise, which thou hast made us capable of, and every way obliged us to. We desire to perform the same in such a manner, that thou mayest mercifully *accept* us and our service at the hands of Christ Jesus. In his great name we come to thee, at thy *command*, and worship here at thy *footstool*, to beg thy *pardon* and *peace*, the *increase* of thy *grace*, and the tokens of thy *love*. For we are not worthy that thou shouldst, in any way of mercy, take of us, or be entreated by us: but worthy that the Son of God, slain to take away the sin of the world, for whose sake thou shouldst not look upon us; for he has fulfilled the laws, which we have broken, and satisfied the justice of Heaven, for all our offences of them. And in him thou art a God, just and merciful, to poor sinners who can do nothing from thee, but to be forsaken and *rejected* by thee. Unto us belong shame and *confusion* of face for our sin

and fearful *expectation* of all the judgment and miseries which thy holy laws denounce against sinners: if thou, Lord, shouldst be *extreme*, to mark what we have done amiss; if thou shouldst deal with us and proceed against us as in *justice* thou mightest.

But, O gracious Father, regard not what we have done *against thee*, but what our blessed Saviour has done *for us*: nor what we have made *ourselves*, but what he is *made* of thee in God unto us. And O that Christ may be to every one of our souls (what he is to all thy faithful people) *wisdom*, and *righteousness*, and *sanctification* and *redemption*; that his precious *blood* may cleanse us from all our sins; and that the *grace* of thy *holy spirit* may further renew and sanctify our souls, and subdue our iniquities, and mortify our lusts; and quicken us to, and enable us for, the performance of all duties of thy holy service. O let not sin *reign* in our mortal bodies, that we should obey it in the lust thereof. Let there be no sin in us but what is felt and hated, bewailed and resisted by us: and let us approve our *hearts* to thee the Searcher of them; and our *ways* still pleasing in thy sight.

O teach us to *know* thee our God, and enable us to do thy *will* as we ought to do. Give us hearts to fear thee, and love thee; to trust and delight in thee, and to adhere and leave in faithfulness unto thee. That no temptations may draw us, nor any tribulations drive us from thee: but that all thy *dispensations* to us, and

and all thy *dealings* with us, may be the messengers of thy love to our *souls*, to bring us nearer to thy *blessed self*, and to make us fitter for thy *heavenly kingdom*. Quicken us, O Lord, in our dullness; that we may not serve thee in a lifeless and listless manner: but may abound in thy work, and be *fervent* spirit, serving the Lord. And make us all faithful in all the offices of *intercourse* with our neighbours; that we may be ready to do good and bear *evil*, and forbear *revenge*; and be just and kind, merciful and meek, peaceable and patient, sober and temperate, humble and self-denying, inoffensive and useful in the world. That so *glorifying* thee here upon earth, we may at our departure hence, enter into the joy of our Lord, and be for ever *glorified* in thy heavenly kingdom.

O thou that hast kept us alive to this *day* and hast been still good and kind to us all *days*, renew thy *mercy* to us (we beseech thee) together with this morning *light*: and as thou makest the outgoings of the *morning* and *evening* to rejoice, so lift up the light of thy countenance upon us, and make us glad with the *tokens* of thy love: and thou that art ever *present* with us, O make us ever well aware of thy *presence*, that we may duly remember thee in all our *ways*, and wisely and piously demean ourselves in all our *affairs*. Be with us, good Lord, at our *going out*, and our *coming in*: and let thy grace follow us this day, and all the *days* of our life. Be thou our guide unto death.

death our *comfort*, and after death our *portion* and happiness everlasting. O hear us from *heaven*, thy dwelling-place ; and, when thou *rest*, have mercy : forgive the sins of our sons, and the sins of our prayers : and do more for us than we are worthy to expect at *thy* hands, for his sake, who alone is *worthy* : whose comprehensive words we sum up all desires, *Our Father, &c.*

A seventh Morning Prayer.

LORD God Almighty, thou art the Sovereign Majesty of heaven and earth, in whom all our sins have been committed, whom alone they can be pardoned, our iniquities *subdued*, our souls *sanctified*, and all our wants and necessities *supplied*. Thou art *able*, also *ready*, to hear and help, to bless and assist thy people, that look up unto thee, and wait and call, and depend upon thee. We are none to repair to for remedy against the sins of our *sins*, but unto thee, the great God, in whom we have greatly *sinned* : who dearest to shew mercy to the *miserable*, and to bestow the occasions of glorifying thy compassion, in helping us out of those straits and perplexities, into which our *sins* have cast us, in which all the *world* else cannot save us. Come, Lord, begging that mercy, which we knowest we extremely *want*, and grace to us in time of our *need*. We beg the same, for the *sake* of thy infinitely beloved Son, our most

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most worthy prevailing *Advocate* ; whose blood alone is of virtue and value sufficient, to fetch out all the stains wherewith our sins have defiled our souls.

We are unclean, Lord, we are unclean : how abominable at the *worst*, and how imperfect at the very *best* : but if thou look upon us in the Son of thy eternal love, thou wilt not *abhor* our guilty souls. And to prepare us for the mercies of that Saviour which thou hast prepared for our *souls*, O make us to feel the burthen and the bitterness of our *sins* ; and help us to find them out, to our *repentance* and *reformation*, that they may never find us out to our *ruin* and *destruction*. Holy Father ! carry on with power thy *victory* over our corruption and the work of faith, and grace, and sanctification in our souls. *Quicken* us, O Lord our God, and stir us up to thy work ; and help and *assist* us in the performance of all duties lying upon us, which of ourselves thou knowest how unable we are to perform. O thou that workest in us to *will* and to *do*, of thy good *pleasure*, be pleased to *ordain* peace for us, : thou hast also wrought all our *works* in us *Establish* the thing, O God, which thou hast wrought for us ; and go on to work mightily upon our hearts by thy *grace*, till our souls are fitted for the eternal enjoyment of thy *glory*.

Dear Lord, thy mercies are fresh and new to us every *morning*. We laid us down as *sleep*, and again awak'd ; for thou hast *sustain* us, and kept us from the terrors of the night.

and from all sad accidents, to rise in peace and safety. Glory be to thee, O God of our salvation, who art still so *mindful* of us, and *merciful* to us. Go on, we pray thee, to be good to us this day, and teach us how to carry ourselves, and to *order* all our *affairs*. O direct our *undertakings*, and prosper our *endeavours*. Rule our *hearts* in thy fear and love, and our *lives* to thy honour and praise. O keep us from *evil*, and help us to do that which is *good* and pleasing to our God, through Jesus Christ. Give us, Lord, all that we have asked as we should, forgive us all that we have asked *amiss*, and give us all else needful, that we should have asked; which we continue to beg in the comprehensive words of thy dear Son. Our Father, &c.

Evening Prayer for a Family.

O LORD, our God! thou art infinitely *great*, and infinitely *good*. Thy glory is above all our *thoughts*, and thy mercies are all over thy *works*. And above all thy mercies, have we cause to admire, and bless, and praise thee, for those mercies which, in so large a measure, and especial manner, thou hast been pleased still to vouchsafe unto us, who are the daily *objects* of thy bounty, and do continue still the living *monuments* of thy goodness. Where thy *glorious perfections* check and forbid our approaches, thy *gracious attributes* invite and encourage our applications unto thee, and

embolden us to look upon thee, as our kind and merciful Father in Jesus Christ. though we have great and many *sins* to count yet will we confess them, in hopes of thy *don* of them, and of power from on high enable us against them.

Thou didst create us, O Lord, after thy blessed *image*, in an holy and happy estate but we have made ourselves vile and miserable quite unlike the things which at first we came out of thy hands; averse to good, prone to evil, and so very full of provocation, that thy wonderful *patience* with us, and long kindness to us, that thou hast not, long before this time, cut us off in our *sins*, and shut us under final *despair* of thy mercy. But thou hast so far declared thy willingness to be reconciled even to thy *enemies*, that thou hast sent thy Son into the world, upon the great errand of our *salvation*: that whosoever believe in him should not perish in their sins, but have eternal life, for his sake. O Lord, we beseech thee help our unbelief: and give us the true *repentance* towards God, and the right *faith* in Lord Jesus Christ; that we may be of the number of those who do indeed repent and believe to the saving of the soul.

And save us, O good Lord, from our *sinners*, and from the love and course of this present evil *world*, and from every self-destructing way which we are tempted to follow. Give us a way to escape out of all the *snare*s of temptation, wherewith we have been entangled

held, and sore let and hindered in running the race set before us. And make thy ways plain before us, and so full of *invitations* to us, that we may be thoroughly convinced of their goodness and excellence, and resolutely give up ourselves to follow them : that our own experience in the way of godliness may be more to keep and engage us to it, than all allurements and discouragements in the world to put us beside it. Establish, O Lord, and strengthen and settle us ; that going forth in thy *strength*, we may do thy will to all well pleasing ; and continue in thy fear and love to our lives end.

Which things we beg not for ourselves alone, but also in behalf of all whom we ought to intreat thy *mercy* for in our prayers. O bring nigh unto thee all those that are yet *afar off* ; and make manifest the Saviour of thy *knowledge* in every place : that such as yet sit in darkness and the shadow of death, may come to see the *light* of thy truth, and the *joy* of thy salvation. O that every one who names the name of Christ may depart from iniquity, and so live up to their high and holy profession, that they may give no just occasion to the enemies of the Lord to *blaspheme* ; but adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things, and to put to silence the ignorance of foolish men by *well doing*.

Be gracious and favourable, O Lord, in especial manner to that part of thy *church*, which thou hast planted in this and the neighbouring *nations* whereto we belong. Arise, O God,

God, and plead thy own *cause*, and maintain thy true and holy *religion*, which thou hast long and so wonderfully own'd and asserted among us. O let not the *enemies* of thy church ever have cause to say, that they have prevailed against thy people : but let all that do *espouse* thy cause, and stand up for the honour and defence of thy *truth*, be still *prevalent* and prosperous in all their pious designs ; and still have cause to say, *the Lord be magnified, who be pleased in the prosperity of his servants.*

~~Bless, with the choicest of thy blessings, O King, whom thou hast put in authority over us. O Lord, protect his person, direct his counsel, make his government still easy and happy, both to himself and us ; and prosper all his undertakings and endeavours for his own honour and for the public safety, peace, and welfare.~~

Give all *magistrates* wisdom and courage to defend the truth, and to do right to all. Make *ministers* an ensample to the flock, in all sobriety, righteousness, and holiness of living : and establish us all an *holy people* to thyself ; granting us one *heart*, and one *way*, that we may all agree in the same *faith*, and adorn it with suitable life.

Comfort all that want the *comforts* which we do enjoy ; and apply thyself in a way agreeable *mercy*, to the several necessities and calamities of all thy afflicted ones, wheresoever or howsoever they are *tried*. Remember, with the favour which thou bearest to thy people, all our *friends* and *benefactors*, our *kindred*

after the flesh, and whoever are dear to us on any other account. Make them, O Lord, such as thou wouldest *have* them, and such as, in Christ Jesus, thou wilt mercifully *accept* of them, here to thy gracious *favour*, and hereafter to thy glorious *kingdom*. Forgive our *enemies*, and turn their hearts; and turn *ours* to forgive them. And *direct* all our ways to please thee, that thou mayest make even our enemies to be at *peace* with us.

Hear us, O God of the Spirits of all flesh! hear us for ourselves and others; others for themselves and us: and hear the Son of thy love, the Lover of our souls, for us, and all the members of thy church *militant* here on earth, whereof Christ Jesus in heaven is the glorious *head*. For him, and to him with thine eternal Self, most holy Father, and the blessed Spirit of grace, our Guide and Comforter, be all thanks, and praise, and honour and glory, humbly and heartily rendered and ascribed of us, and all thy people, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

Another Evening Prayer for a Family.

OUR ever-blessed and most gracious God! thou art the Lord and Giver of our lives and hopes, and of all our enjoyments and comforts. To thee we do owe *ourselves*, and all that ever we are capable of rendering and ascribing. For by thee O Lord, we were *created* and *had our being*; and through thy good providence

vidence it is, that we still have been spared and preserved, and cared and provided for throughout our whole *lives*, unto this present time. From thee, our God, comes all our *help*, and in thee is reposed all our *hope*. Thou art the bountiful Giver of all the good that our souls desire, and the merciful Withholder of all the *evil* that our sins deserve. We acknowledge thy great and daily *goodness* to us, and our own exceeding unworthiness of the least of all thy *mercies*. We take shame and confusion to ourselves, that we have so little *improved*, and so greatly *abused*, all thy *patience* with us, and all the various instances of thy *bounty* to us. For even thy *mercies* help to inflame the heavy reckoning of our *offences*, because we have done so much against thee, after all the great things thou hast done for us. We desire, O Lord, to be *penitent*, and humbled for our sins; and to entreat thy gracious *favour* in Jesus Christ, for the *pardon* of them. Forgive us, we pray thee, (for his sake) all the sins that ever we have committed against thee, and absolve us from all the evil whereof we now stand *guilty* before thee. And being *justified* by faith, grant us *peace* with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we pray, that thou wilt be to us a Father of *mercies*, and a God of *consolation*; so that thou wilt make us followers of God, as dear *children*; ever jealous over our *hearts*, and watchful over our *ways*; continually fearing to *offend*, and endeavouring to please thee! and keepin

keeping our hearts with all diligence, that they may not be *hardened* through the deceitfulness of *sin*. Thou knowest, O Lord, our weakness, and danger of *temptations*; our danger from the cruel, subtle *enemy* of our souls; and from this present *world*, that is so full of snares; and from our own vile *flesh* and deceitful *hearts*, so apt to betray us into the *enemy's* hands: we pray therefore, good Lord, that thou wilt arm us with the whole *armour* of God, and uphold us with thy *free spirit*, and watch over us for good evermore. Especially in the times of our sorest *trials*, let us experience the strongest aids of thy heavenly *grace*, that we may never fall a miserable *prey* to those deadly enemies that seek to *devour* us.

And teach us, our God, to know the *day* of grace, and the time of our *visitation*, and to see the things of our *peace*, and duly to mind and settle the great eternal affairs of our souls, in this our *day*, before they be hid from our eyes. And while we have *time*, O enable us to use and improve it, to those great ends for which thou art pleased to put that precious *talent* into our hands, that we may make the short and uncertain *stay* which we have here, an *opportunity* of securing to ourselves a sure and everlasting *well-being*, when we shall depart from hence.

And seeing thou art pleased yet to hold our souls in life, and to make us find and feel, by every day's experience, how abundantly gracious and merciful thou art (with much pa-

tience and long-suffering, enduring us, and *loving-kindness* and manifold blessings) venting and following us.— O give us more *sensible* of thy love, more *affected* with thy mercy, and more *thankful* for those countless favours which thou art pleased to bestow upon us. And help us to shew forth thy love and the truth of our *thanks*, not only in praising the good of the *name* of God, but for our conversations as becomes the *gospel* of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And to thy mercy in him, most merciful Father, we do now humbly recommend ourselves, and all that we are, and have, at this present night; beseeching thee to protect and defend, and bless and keep us, both in *body*, from all evils and dangers, to wit, from the weakness of our *frame*, and the great necessities, do expose us. And grant us sufficient comfortable *repose*, whereby our frail nature may be *refreshed*, and our decayed strength renewed, that we may rise again better fitted and enabled to serve thee according to thy will, in all the *duties* of the following *day*, if thou art pleased to make addition of another *day* to our *lives*. And as thou addest *days* and *years*, be pleased also to add *repentance* and *amendment* to our lives; that, as we come to our *end*, we may be made still fit for the enjoyment of thy *heavenly kingdom*; that this *day* may bring us still so much nearer to those everlasting joys and glories, which thou hast *prepared* for them that love thee. Amen.

the *good things* that ever we have had, and do at present enjoy, and yet hope for from thy bountiful hands, thine, O blessed glorious Lord our God, be the praise, and honour, and glory, offered up with all *grateful hearts*, by us, and thy whole *church*, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

A third Evening Prayer.

O LORD, thou art our gracious God, our *chiefest good*, and our most merciful Father in Jesus Christ : in whose great *name*, and prevailing mediation, alone it is, that we, who have multiplied our offences against thee, are encouraged still to present our persons, and our prayers here before thee. It is a *privilege* which we must acknowledge ourselves utterly unworthy to enjoy, that thou shouldst admit us into thy *service* ; yea into *fellowship* with thy blessed Self. We durst not appear in the presence of such a holy glorious Majesty, in our *own names*, or trusting in any merits or righteousness in *ourselves* ; being conscious to so much of our *sin* and *guilt*, as may make us *ashamed* to come before thy face, and to *tremble* for fear of thy judgments. But we come in the name and *mediation* of thy dear Son, whom thou dost infinitely *love* above all, who has fully satisfied thy *justice* for our *sins*, and does continually intercede at thy right-hand for our *souls* ; whom thou delightest to *honour* in *sparing*, *accepting*, and *saving* poor unwor-
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thy sinners upon his *account*. O deliver us, most gracious Lord, for his sake, from all our transgressions, for which our hearts condemn us: and from all, of which thou, that art greater than our *hearts*, knowest us to be guilty. And seal to us a full pardon, in his most precious *blood*, which speaks better things for our behalf, than we are able to do ourselves in all our *prayers*.

And may the time past of our lives suffice to have lived to *ourselves*, and to have served our own *lusts* and pleasures. O put an end to our *presumptuous* and *treacherous* dealings with thy heavenly all-seeing Majesty; and grant us new and clean, humble and contrite hearts to *tremble* at thy word and presence, and hate and abandon all our foolish and sinful *misdoings*. And wilt thou engage to thyself O blessed Lord, the best and frequentest thoughts of our *minds*, the chief and choicest affections of our *hearts*, and the main tendency and activity of our *souls*? O let us be taken up with such content and delight in *attending* upon thee, and *communion* with thee, that the most tempting things of this world may not pull us down into an inordinate or immoderate *love* of them; nor disturb and hinder us in the pursuit of what our *faith* foresees and what thy *love* has prepared for, and promised to thy servants.

Hear us, O Lord, for ourselves, and let our *supplications* also ascend before thee in the behalf of all men living. Send thy word, and
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ans of *grace*, to such as are yet *destitute* of
m ; and make them efficacious, and the
hour of life in those that do enjoy them.
vert the unconverted, and *perfect* thy good
k where thou hast begun it. Give a *check*
n heaven to all profaneness, vice, and un-
lliness, that presumptuous sinners may be
amed, and the wickedness of the wicked may
ne to an *end*. O make thy *church* to increase
l flourish, and thy *servants* to prevail and re-
e. Be gracious and favourable to this our
ive land, to the *head* and governors, and to
the inferior and particular *members* of it. O
thou *rule* all our rulers, *counsel* all our coun-
ors, *teach* all our teachers, and turn and
er all the public affairs, to the glory of thy
ne, and to the welfare of this *church* and
te, wherein we live. Avert from us, good
rd, we beseech thee, the judgments which
feel or fear, continuing to us the *blessings*
l comforts for our *bodies*, and especially the
ps and advantages for our *souls*, which
ough thy favour, we do enjoy. And not-
withstanding all the devices of the *enemies* of
peace, and all the great and crying provo-
ions of our *sins*, O be thou still our God,
d let us be thy people.

Think thoughts of pity and compassion to
the sons and daughters of *affliction*. O sanc-
thy Fatherly corrections to them, *support*
im under their several *burdens*, and in thy
ed time *deliver* them from all the *pressures*
it are upon them. Be good to all our friends

and neighbours, *reward* our benefactors, bless our relations with the best of thy blessings, making them near to thyself by *grace*, as they are to us by *alliance*. Preserve us from our *enemies*, and reconcile them both to us and to thyself. O that all the habitations of Christians may be *houses of Prayer*, and be thou especially kind to the several *families* where thy blessed *name* is called upon. Let thy heavenly blessings, and thy saving grace descend and rest upon us here in this *family*. O guide us, and keep us; make us wise and faithful in our *duty*, and prosperous and blessed in the *issue*. Bless all our present *estates* to us, and fit us all for whatsoever thou shalt be pleased to *call* us to. O teach us how to *want* and how to *abound*; and both in a *prosperous* and a *suffering* condition, secure our *hearts* to thyself, and make us ever to approve ourselves *sincere* and faithful in thy service.

And now, O Lord, be pleased to accept our *evening sacrifice* of praise and thanksgiving, to thee the Father of *mercies*, and fountain of all *goodness*, for the mercies of the *day past*, and for thy great mercy and *goodness*, that hath hitherto followed us all the days of our *life*. For our lives have been *filled* with thy mercies, and thou hast *abounded* towards us in loving-kindness, and variety of thy sweet and comfortable *blessings*, pertaining to this world, and a better; passing by our innumerable *sins*, as if thou sawest them not, thou goest on still to oblige us with *new favours*. O dear Lord, im-
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print and preserve upon our *hearts* a lively grateful sense and remembrance of all thy kindness unto us, that our souls may bless thee, and all that is within us may praise thy holy *name*.

Yea, let us give thee thanks from the *ground* of the *heart*, and praise our God, whilst we have our *being*. And for all thy *patience* with us, thy *care* over us, and thy continual *mercy* to us, blessed be thy *name*, O Lord God, our heavenly Father : and unto thee be all thanks and praise, and love, and obedience, and honour and glory offered by us, and all thine, every where, now and evermore. Amen.

A fourth Evening Prayer.

O LORD, the infinite, incomprehensible God, who art *before* all, art *above* all, and wilt be for ever the *same*, when time shall be no more ! Thou hast heaven for thy *throne* and the earth for thy *footstool* ; and all the things in both, continually in thy *light*, and at thy *disposal*. Thou art the Searcher of our *hearts*, and the Overseer of our whole *lives*, here and every where present ; and now and ever more thou seest us, and compasseth our path, and our lying down, and art thoroughly *acquainted* with all our ways. Thou knowest, O Lord, the dulness and hardness, the vanity and deceitfulness of our hearts ; how much ado we have to bring and keep them in an holy *frame*, fit to attend upon thy heavenly Majesty. For that we were *born* sinners, and

so have lived and continued ; and by cust
of sinning, and still adding sin unto sin,
have made ourselves more the children of *wr*
than we are by *nature* ; transgressing thy h
good, and righteous *laws*, abusing thy g
and manifold *mercies*, tempting thy *patien*
despising thy *goodness*, offending thee m
even for thy long-forbearance with us, and
making the very *abundance* of thy grace our *enc*
agement to continue in our sins. So that the l
of all those *mercies* which we do enjoy, is
above any thing that we have reason to exp
at the hands of that God whom we have
greatly *provoked*. And justly mightest thou
Lord, withdraw thy tender *mercies* from us,
pour out thy *wrath* and indignation to the
termost upon us ; making us to find and feel
woful *experience*, what an evil and bitter th
it is to trespass upon thee, as we have do
Thou mightest make us experience the sa
in the place of *torment*, and outward darkn
where is weeping and wailing, and gnashing
teeth, and from whence there is no *redempt*

But thou art a God of wonderful patience
bear with *sinners* ; and a God of infinite ge
ness and mercy, to forgive the sins of all th
that are *penitent*. Thou hast said, that if
wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous
his thoughts, and return to the Lord, t
wilt have mercy upon him, and abundan
pardon. But O Lord, thou knowest that w
out thee we cannot so much as come unto t
unless thou meet us with thy heavenly g

and help us with thy Almighty *assistance*. We humbly beg, therefore, that thou wilt be graciously pleased to stretch forth thy powerful and merciful hand, to loose the captive *chain* wherein our sins have entangled our *souls*. And let it be thy gracious pleasure, O blessed Lord, to set us free from every *weight* of sin and *yoke* of bondage, that lies heavy upon our souls, and unfits us to serve thee with that sincerity and readiness, and gladness, which thou requiest of thy people. O help us so to see and feel, so to hate and bewail, and confess and forsake our *sins*, that we may have the well-grounded apprehension, and the comfortable persuasion of thy *forgiveness* of them ! thy *acceptance* of us, and that *love* to us in the *blessed* Son of thy eternal love.

And for his sake, wilt thou grant us, O Lord, the increase of thy *grace*, and such aids of thy holy *spirit*, as may enable us against our *sins*, and fit us for all the duties of thy *service*, which either we have neglected, or but unduly and faultily performed. That we may serve thee, our God, sincerely without *hypocrisy* ; cheerfully, without *dulness* ; universally without partiality ; and constantly, without falling away, or being weary of *well-doing*. Thou art not weary to do us *good* ; O let us never be weary to do thee *service*. But as thou hast pleasure in the prosperity of thy *servants*, so let us take pleasure in the service of our Lord, and abound in thy work, and in thy love and praise evermore. O *fill* up all that is wanting,

and *reform* whatever is amiss in us, and *perfect* that which concerns us ; making us such in our *hearts*, and in our *lives*, towards thee our God, that we may obtain thy blessed *peace* here, and thy heavenly *glory* hereafter. And be thou pleased to grant us now (out of the riches of thy grace) the comfortable sense of thy gracious *acceptance* of us, and thy merciful *intentions* towards us. O speak *peace* to our *consciences*, and say to our *souls*, thou art our *salvation* ; that we may look upon thee, our God, as a *reconciled* Father to us in Jesus Christ.

In his great *name*, and prevailing mediation we enlarge our petitions, in behalf of the whole race of *mankind*, that are now with us alive upon earth. O that all the ends of the *world* may remember themselves, and *turn* to the Lord, and see the salvation of our God ! Do good, O God, in thy good pleasure, to Zion, and build thou the walls of Jerusalem, that we may see the good of it all the days of our life. Continue thy mercies to this sinful *land*, whereof we are sinful members. Teach us to know the meaning of thy *dispensations* to us ; and help us to improve by all thy *dealings* with us. O turn all our *hearts* to thee, as the heart of one *man* : and reform all our *lives*, according to the holy pattern and *precepts* of our Lord, that thou mayest cause thy *anger* towards us to cease ; and go on still to take care of us, and never leave nor forsake us.

~~Bless abundantly the King's Majesty, who
now sways the scepter of these realms. O Lord
preserve~~

~~his life, prolong his days, and prosper
 ment. Give him the hearts of his sub-
 jects, the necks of his enemies. Make him
 the joy of thy people, and a terror only to
 his enemies. O continue him long a zealous
 of the faith, a promoter of thy fear,
 for of our rights, that under his rule
 may be in peace and safety, enjoying
 of the gospel, and the free profession
 of thy true and holy religion.~~
 unto all magistrates and ministers con-
 plices of all needful gifts and graces
 thy spirit, for the conscionable and the
 discharge of their several places. O
 our neighbours near to thyself; and be-
 come to all our friends, a father to the
 poor, a husband to the widow, a refuge to
 the oppressed, a physician to the sick, a helper
 in need, a God of consolation to the
 sorrowful, whatever be their
 affliction. O bless to us, whatever
 is pleased to allot us, and every thing
 is us. Make all work for our good;
 us up in thy grace, and to help us on
 our way.

Thou hast been good and kind to us
 hitherto, and throughout our whole lives:
 as we desire, O Lord, humbly and
 gratefully to admire thy love, and to bless thy
 name; we beg that we may experience the
 effect of thy gracious goodness to us, and
 thy care over us, this present night.
 Preserve and defend, and bless and keep us,

that no evil may befall us, nor any *plague* come nigh our dwelling. Give us *sleep* and *rest*, refresh and strengthen us for thy service, and our duty : and prepare us, O Lord, for our last sleep, in *death*, and for our departure out of this mortal *life*, and those great *accounts* that we must make before the judgment-seat of Jesus Christ. O *instruct* us, and assist us, in this great work of *preparation* for our everlasting condition : that we may (in this only time of preparation) *finish* the great work which thou hast given us to do, before the night of *death* overtake us, wherein we cannot *work*. Tell us whenever thou shalt be pleased to give us *summons* of death, we may find nothing to fear, but to *die*, and cheerfully resign our spirits into thy gracious hands, who gavest them to us, through the riches of thy *grace*, and the worthiness of thy Son ; in whose merits alone we *trust*, and for all that he has so wonderfully effected, to recover and help us and to obtain eternal redemption for us, to thy name, blessed God of our salvation, be the praise, and honour, and glory, given by us and all thy people, from this time forth for evermore. *Amen.*

A fifth Evening Prayer.

O LORD, we desire to seek thy *face*, and to wait upon thee in the duties of *worship* ; intreating thy gracious favour with our whole hearts, that we may do all as thou

ought, with good *acceptance* to our God. And to whom should we make our applications, but unto thee, the Father of *mercies*, and the fountain of all *goodness*, who art *able* to do exceeding abundantly for us, even above all that we ask or think ; and who hast declared thy *willingness* to be importuned and solicited by us ; and thy *readiness* to hear, and help and answer us, in those things which we beg at thy gracious and bountiful hands, in the *name* and *mediation* of our great Lord and Saviour : O let our prayer be set before thee as *incense*, and the lifting up of our hands be as the *evening sacrifice*, pleasing to thee our God, in the Son of thy love. 'Tis in his blessed name alone, that we have the encouragement and *boldness* to beg of thy infinite goodness all that thou knowest to be needful and expedient for us ; seeing there is in ourselves no good thing to *recommend* us to thy favour and acceptance ; but a proneness and inclination to what is displeasing in thy eyes, and destructive to our *souls*. For besides that we were by nature the *children of wrath*, a *seed* of evil-doers, the sinful *offspring* of rebellious parents ; we have been daily trespassing upon thee, and still adding to the heavy score of our offences against thee. There is nothing in us, O Lord, but what may provoke thee to *reject* us : but there is, enough in thy beloved Son, of all grace and goodness, to move thee mercifully to *accept* us. He was made *sin* for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the *righteousness* of God in him ;

and that we might be saved through faith in his *merits*, where we could not be saved by any desert of our own *works*. O see our sins punished in our Saviour, who was *wounded* for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities : and as the *chastisement* of our peace was upon him, so let the merit of his righteousness be upon us ; and by his *stripes* let our souls be healed.

Nor do we only beg for pardon of our sins, but also for power against them, and *grace* sufficient for us to break them off, and to walk more pleasingly before thee, in all the way and duties of righteousness and holiness, which thy word prescribes to us. O never suffer us to be *tempted* above what we are *able* ; but make our temptations *less*, or thy *grace* in us, and our spiritual strength, still greater than all our temptations ; that no iniquities may *prevail* against us, nor any presumptuous sin have *dominion* over us. O make us more conformable to the *pattern* and the *precepts* of our Saviour ; and more *transformed* into his holy image and likeness : that we may not profess the *religion* of Jesus Christ, to the wrong and *disparagement* of it ; nor make the way of *truth*, by reason of us, to be *evil spoken* of : but let our light shine before men, to the *glory* of thee our heavenly Father, and to the *edification* of those with whom we have our conversation.

And seeing the time of our abode in this *transitory* world is so very *short* and *uncertain*, and we have an *everlasting* estate to abide in
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fter our departure hence ; where we must be happy or miserable *eternally*, according to what we do now in the *body* : O let us not here set up our *rest*, as if we were at *home* upon earth, nor flatter ourselves with the thoughts of *long* life or sure enjoyment of any of these things that perish in the using ; but all the days of our appointed time, may we wait till our *change* comes ; and not only live in *expectation* of it, but in the daily serious *preparation* for it ; in the exercise of all those graces and good *works* that may make it unto us Christ to live, and *rain* to die : that in life and death we may be always *thine* ; still safe in thy *hands*, and acceptable in thy sight.

And together with our *own*, we commend to thy mercy, O God of the spirits of all *flesh*, the necessities and distresses of all our *brethren* throughout the world. O enlighten the *ignorant*, quicken the *careless*, awake the *secure*, convince the *erroneous*, reclaim the *vicious*, establish the *unsettled*, and comfort the *dejected*. Bring all to the knowledge and love of thy *truth*, and to the participation of thy *grace*, and the obedience of Christ ; and so to the blessed hope of thy heavenly *glory*, and the eternal salvation of our *souls*. We pray (~~as more particularly~~) for ~~the king and~~ all our *magistrates* and *ministers* ; and all our *friends* and *relations* ; and all thy *servants*, and all the *afflicted*, every where : especially those, for whose happiness and salvation thou knowest us to be *chiefly concerned*. O do thou for us, and for
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them

them, as thou knowest best, and most needful and expedient, for thy own *mercy's* sake Jesus Christ.

As we pray to thee for what we *wa* so we desire to praise thee for all that we have received at thy *hands*. And blessed be thy name, O Lord, that we have *any* thing (ye that we have so many things) to bless and praise thee for. O what shall we render to the Lord for all his *benefits* ! What can we give to thy our God, but the *glory* of thy own gifts and goodness unto us. O dear Lord ! let not our *hearts* be shut and straitened towards thee whose hand is every day so open unto us ; but do thou possess and enlarge these hearts of ours with more and greater love and thankfulness to thee, that hast so abounded in mercies and loving-kindness towards us, that we may give thee thanks with all our *hearts*, and glorify thy *name* for evermore.

And now that the *night* is upon us, and we are ready to betake ourselves to our *rest*, we commit ourselves to thy gracious protection, we never sleepest nor slumbereest, but hast still watchful eye open upon thy people. O watch over us, our God, we pray thee, for *good*, that none of the *evils* or harms which our sins have deserved may befall us. Preserve us from temptations, and from the powers of *darkness*, and from all the terrors and dangers of the *night*. Let all our sins, to-day, or any time heretofore committed, be removed out of thy sight, and show us the light of thy countenance.

O Lord, to refresh us with the sense of thy blessed love and favor, in our dear Redeemer: for whom, and to whom, with thy *eternal* ~~self~~, and *holy spirit*, be all thanks and praise, and of honour and glory, ascribed of us, and all thy *church*, from this time forth, world without end. *Amen.*

A sixth Evening Prayer.

O LORD, our God, most high and mighty, most wise and holy, and just and good! Thou art, and ever wast, and for ever shalt continue, unspeakably blessed and glorious, above all that we are able to *express* or to *conceive*. Thou dost not need the services of *men* or *angels* to make the least addition to thy glory and bliss. Men cannot be *profitable* unto God; our goodness will not extend to the Lord. But, in kindness and love to our *souls* it is, that thou art pleased to lay thy commands upon us, to wait upon thee in these duties of thy *immediate service*; which is the blissful employment of all the glorious *host* of heaven. Thou humblest thyself even to behold the things that are in *heaven*, to take notice of the worship of those *blessed* creatures above. O how wonderful is thy *condescension* then, to look down upon us, poor sinful *worms*, that dwell here in houses of *clay*, whose foundation is in the *dust*! Lord, ~~what~~ *what* is *man* that thou takest knowledge of him, ~~and~~ *and* the son of *man* that thou makest account ~~of him~~! Thou canst not at all need us, nor

any thing of ours, O blessed God : but all do stand in great and continual need of thee, our only *sovereign good* ; in need of thy mercy and forgiveness, thy grace and guidance, thy blessing and assistance : without which we could never hope to escape the curses and penalties which are the *due wages* of our sins, nor ever to attain unto that glory and blessedness which are the *free gifts* of God in Jesus Christ.

The desire of our souls, therefore, is to praise thy name, O Lord, and to the remembrance of thy goodness. Our eyes are towards thee, and all our expectation is from thee : and still we wait, and stand, and depend upon thee, till thou have mercy upon us, according to our several necessities, and according to the riches of thy grace, and to the multitude of thy mercies. O remove not against us *former* iniquities : enter not into judgment with us, according to the multitude of our sins : but according to thy mercy, remember thou us, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord. Blot out our transgressions as a cloud, and justify us freely by thy grace, through thy redemption that is in Jesus Christ. And deliver us, holy God of our salvation, in turn from all our iniquities, and giving us grace, to *repent* and *amend* our lives according to thy holy word.

And to this end, be thou pleased to enlighten our darkened minds with the beams of thy saving truth, that we may not be unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is, *And reform* our depraved wills, inclining

to a cheerful and ready *compliance* with all the motions of thy good spirit. *Regulate* our unruly passions; *purify* our corrupt affections; and *convert* all the faculties of our souls, to be instruments of thy *glory*, as they have been of thy *dishonour*: and make our bodies sit *temples* for thy holy spirit to dwell in. Yea, *sanctify* us wholly, that we may, (as we ought) sanctify thy blessed name.

And quicken us, O Lord, to hear thy voice, while it is called *to-day*; that we may make *haste*, and not *delay*, to keep thy commandments. O keep us frequently and affectionately mindful of the *shortness* of our time, the *frailty* of our lives, and the *uncertainty* of our being here in this mutable world, that so soon passeth away, and where we have no *continuing city*; but are *strangers* and *sojourners* with thee, as all our fathers before us were. O let the remembrance and consideration of this have such a prevailing *influence* upon us, as to *crucify* the world to us, and make us more concerned for our *everlasting welfare*, and more careful to improve every present enjoyment, to our souls' *eternal advantage*; and to grow *holier* still as we grow *older*: that the days which pass over us may not leave us, without any *amendment* wrought upon us; but that the work of thy *grace* may go on successfully upon our *hearts*, till it has made us *ripe* and *ready* for the joys and glories of thy kingdom.

The same things also we beg in behalf of all ~~that~~ *ought* to share in our *prayers*. O forgive
the

the *sins*, and relieve the *miseries* of thy poor creatures every where. Enlarge the borders of thy *church*, and make additions to it daily of such as shall be *saved*. O that all who are called *Christians*, may be truly *christian*, both in their right *believing* and their holy *living*. The *church* which thou hast planted among us, Lord, watch over it for *good*, night and day ; that no *weapons* formed against it may prosper. ~~Give thy judgments, O God, to the King, that he may judge thy people righteously, and break in pieces their oppressors. Grant him still an interest in the hearts of his people, and thy protection from the hands of his enemies. May he so rule and reign here for thee, that he may come to live, and reign for ever with thee.~~ Make all our *magistrates* men fearing God, and eschewing evil. And O that all who are called to serve at thy *altar*, may be blessed with skilful *heads*, and compassionate *hearts*, and exemplary *lives*. Make them wise to *win* souls, and faithful, industrious, and successful in their sacred office, as the workmen that need not be *ashamed*. Bless and prosper all the places of good learning and *education* : and make all this *people* the Lord's people ; that they may all know thee from the greatest to the least ; and so order their conversation aright, that they may see the salvation of God. Remember them all for good, who have been any way *instruments* of our good, such as have done us good, O Lord, reward them : and all that have (or would) hurt us, O Lord *forgive them*.

Give

Give unto all that mourn in Zion, beauty for *ashes*, the oil of gladness for *mourning*, and the garments of praise for the spirit of *beaviness*. And in the time of our health and peace, and prosperity, O that we may *remember*, and *provide* for, the time of trouble and sickness, and death ; when all *worldly* succours will fail us ; and the greatest powers on *earth* cannot deliver us out of thy hands. O make us now so mindful of our *duty* that then thou mayest remember us in *mercy* ; and be with us and support us, and never leave nor forsake us.

Our own unworthiness would make us *despair* of obtaining all these *great* and *good* things which we beg at thy hands, O Lord : But the remembrance of thy continual bounty and how much we are every day receiving from thee, puts life into our hopes, and *encouragement* into our prayers, and leaves us no reason to doubt of such tried mercy. And blessed for ever be thy name, that we have so much to say of thy *goodness* by our own *experience* ; that thou hast in so many advantages made us to *differ*. O good Lord ! continue such thy gracious favor to us, and thy fatherly care over us this night. As we go to rest after the labours of the *day*, so help us to do thy work that we may enter into that *rest* which remains for thy people in the *close* of this life. And so discharge us from our *sins*, and supply us still with thy *grace*, that we may finish our course with *joy*, and in the end of our lives find that greatest of all *mercies*, to be received into *thy glory* : Which

we beg for the all-sufficient merits of our only Redeemer : For whom, and to whom, with thee, O everlasting Father, and the Holy Ghost the Comforter, in the *unity* of the ever glorious Trinity, be all praise, and honour and glory ascrib'd of us, and of all the Israel of God, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

A seventh Evening Prayer.

O LORD, the great and glorious God, infinite in *power, wisdom, and goodness* : the wonderful maker and preserver, ruler and disposer, of us and of all the *world* ! Thou hast created all things by thy Almighty *hand* ! sustaineest and orderest all that thou hast made by thy wise and righteous Providence ; and thy *mercy* is everlasting, and over all thy *works*. O who is able to express or conceive the exceeding riches of that grace and goodness of the Lord, which in such a plentiful measure is still descending and *overflowing* upon poor sinful creatures, who deserve nothing from thee, but to be *forsaken* and *abhorred* by thee ! This day, and every day of our lives, O Lord, we have tasted largely of thy *mercy*, and liv'd altogether still upon thy fatherly *care* and *bounty*.

But notwithstanding all thy *patience* and gracious dealings with us, and all the repeated pledges of thy *favour* and kindness to us ; O how ill have we requited thy love ! And what unsuitable *returns* have we made for all thy great and continued *goodness* that we have found ! Beside the guilt of our *inbred* corruption,

tion, which, as a sore *clog* hangs heavy upon us: we are amazed at the greatness and multitude of all our other sins that we have committed against the light and teachings of thy *gospel*, against the dictates and strivings of thy Spirit, and the love and sufferings of thy Son; against all the patience and long forbearance which thou hast exercised towards us: and against the many mercies and *methods* of our conversion and sanctification, wherewith from time to time, thou hast sought to make us such as thy word requires we should be. O Lord, we have given thee so great provocation, that we are afraid lest thou shouldst *forsake* us utterly, and cause the day of thy *patience* to be at end with us, and grant us no more of the *grace* which we have so greatly *abused*, no more of the holy spirit which we have so frequently *refused*. And what have we now but judgment to expect from thee, O Lord, but that thy *mercy* rejoices over *judgment*! And thy word assures us, that thou delightest not in the *death* of sinners, but rather that they should turn to thee and *live*. Therefore still thou leavest us these *opportunities* to appear before thee, to *plead* with our God, for the life of our *souls*, that have sinned against thee. And what have we to plead, O blessed Lord, but thy own gracious *nature*, and merciful *inclinations*, and the many *promises* and *declarations* of thyself, which thou hast made to returning sinners in Jesus Christ! Thou hast sent thine only Son to be our Almighty Saviour: And he

that did no *sin* was *manifested* to take away *sins*. O for his sake be thou pleased to *pity* and *spare* us, and *forgive* us. Turn away wrath from us ; receive us to thy blessed *favor* and comfort us with the sure persuasion, that our great and many sins are *remitted*.

And because such is the infirmity of our nature, that without thy *grace* we have not *least power* to keep ourselves even from *greatest sins* ; O grant us the *increase* of thy grace and such *help* of thy good spirit, as may fortify us against all *temptation*, and make us will and faithful, and diligent in thy *service*. A be pleased, O Lord, yet further to discover and manifest thyself to our *souls*, that we may know aright, Thee, the *only true* God, & Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. And grant us *power* from on high to enable us so to live and practise, according to that *light* and knowledge of our duty which thou art pleased to impart unto us, that we may not hold the truth in *unrighteousness*, (knowing the *betwixt* and doing the *worse* ;) but may walk in the *light*, as *children* of light, while we have it, that we may never in judgment be *deprived* of it. O let us not only be *almost*, but *altogether* Christians, *sincere* converts, true penitents, and *sound* believers. And wilt thou, O God *to whom thou workest all in all*, do that work of thy *grace* thoroughly upon all our hearts ; for which thou mayst have cause to give thee praise and *glory* all eternity.

Which things we beg not only for ourselves

ut for all the *partakers* of our nature, whom thou hast made to share in our hopes and *capacities* of eternal happiness; especially for thy sole *church*, wheresoever or howsoever disposed over all the earth : ~~For the King's Majesty,~~ ~~†~~ all our *rulers* and *counsellors* : For our *ministers* and *teachers* : For our *relations* and *neighbors* ; our *friends* and *benefactors* : And for all *afflicted*, whatsoever be their trials and troubles. O supply all their *wants*, and fulfill their *desires*, so as thy wisdom sees best, for thy own mercy's sake in Jesus Christ.

Thou Lord, art the great *preserver* of men, who has kept and blest us *to-day*, and all our *days*. Praised be thy name for all thy goodness, which we so long and largely have experienced. O make us *sensible* and *thankful*, as we are obliged to be. Take care of us, O Lord, and be good to us this *night*. Give us *quietly* rest in our beds, and rest for our *souls* in self. And be thou our God and guide, our aid and help, our joy and comfort, and all in to us this night, and for evermore. *Amen.*

Morning Prayer for the Lord's Day.

) MOST blessed and gracious Lord our God, whose almighty hand has brought us out of *nothing*, to what we are ; to see thee, and enjoy the comforts of *life* : And whose free grace has called us out of a state worse than nothing to the hope of thy heavenly *joy* ! We bless thy name, that thou hast continued us safe, through all states and events,

and through all the trials and troubles in our lives, to see the comfortable light of this *day*; and that we have yet a day of *grace* wherein to see the things belonging to our *peace*. We bless thee that thou hast so far consulted the *good* of our souls, as well as the *glory* of thy name, in setting apart this *day* for holy uses, to engage us to a solemn *attendance* upon the Lord: in whose service consists all our *honour* and *happiness*. O how much higher might we have been in *grace*, and thy blessed *favour*: how much nearer to thee our God, and fitter for thy heavenly kingdom, had we rightly used, and conscientiously improved those seasons and means of *grace*, which thou hast been pleased to put into our hands, for the best advantage of our *soul*.

But we have been unkind and *cruel* to our own souls, as well as disobedient and *rebellious* against our Lord; many times *frustrating* the opportunities of appearing before thee; shunning and neglecting the duties of thy holy service: And even when we have set ourselves to seek thy *face*, it has been with such coldness and dulness, rudeness and distractions, that thou mightest justly *abhor* our souls, *despise* our prayers, and cast back all our services in our faces, for any thing that there is in us or them, to recommend us to thy blessed *favour* and acceptance.

But be thou pleased to look upon us in the Son of thy love, the Lord our *peace* and *righteousness*; and forgive us all that is past, wherein

wherein we have *neglected* thy work, or ill performed it, or done what is inconsistent with t. Help us, O God of our salvation, and deliver us from the bands and the burthen of our *guilt* ; and purge away all our sins, for the glory of thy *name* : That thou may'st not stand as a *partition-wall*, to hinder the desire of our souls from ascending up to thee ; nor hinder the light of thy countenance from *descending* upon us. But let thy *peace* and love, and favour shine on our *souls* ; that we may see the felicity of thy *chosen*, and with joy draw water out of the *wells* of salvation.

O let us not rest in any *forms* of godliness, denying the *power* thereof ; nor take up with the *name* and shew, and the profession of *Christianity*, but be sway'd with its life, and power and spirit : That the *gospel* of our Lord, and the *graces* of the good spirit of God, may shine forth in our lives, to the *glory* of thee our heavenly Father ; and to the adorning of the *doctrine* of God our Saviour in all things. O gracious God be with us, and with all the *ministers* and *stewards* of thy holy things, who are this day to speak thy word to thy people ; and furnish them with *abilities* suitable to their great *work*, that they may fitly apply themselves to the *capacities*, and to the *necessities* of their several hearers. And grant, Lord, unto us, and unto all the hearers of thy holy word, humble and teachable spirits ; to receive thy truth in *meekness*, and in the love of it, so as to profit and grow by it. O do thou remove all the

hindrances of our spiritual growth and improvement, that thy word may have *free course*, and be glorified amongst us. And let us this day go forth in the *strength* of the Lord God; and prosper and increase with the increase of God by thy grace and blessing accompanying our desires and endeavours; till from serving thee *imperfectly* here upon earth, we attain to glory and enjoy thee our God, in the *perfection* of holiness, and in those everlasting joys and glories of thy kingdom, which thou hast prepared for them that *love* thee.

And let thy grace and blessing, thy love and fellowship, thy direction and assistance, heavenly Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with us and with all whom we ought to beg thy mercy for in our prayers, this day, and evermore. *Amen.*

Another Morning Prayer for the Lord's Day

O LORD, the great Almighty God, thou art the giver of life and strength, and all grace and goodness; without whom we can do *nothing*; and through whose gracious assistance it is, that we are enabled to do all things belonging to thy *service* and our *duty*: We humbly pray, that thou wilt be graciously present with us, and powerfully *assistent* unto us this day, to direct and quicken, and enable and further us in all the ways and duties of *thy holy service*. O forgive our iniquities *that separate* between thee and our souls; and remember

Remember not the sins against us, which may provoke thee to *hide* thy face from us. According to thy *mercy*, remember thou Lord, and accept us, and our poor imperfect services, at the hands, and for the sake of Jesus Christ.

Save us not to the dullness and hardness, stupidity and deceitfulness of our own depravities : but shew the power of thy heavenly Spirit in working mightily upon these *hearts* of us, that we may be fitter to attend upon thee, and perform more faithful and acceptable service to thee, and enjoy more of that heavenly communion with thee, which thou hast made possible of ; and which our *souls* will be forever restless without. O let us not serve thee with *hypocrisy* and *hypocrisy*, making any duties of ours the *cover* of a vain licentious life : But purify our hearts and souls, and all that is within us, to be taken up in a reverend, faithful and constant *attendance* upon thee. Nor let us serve thee of *constraint*, only because we must ; but with all readiness and gladness, and love and delight to be so *engaged* : Making thy service to be ours, and the Sabbath and service of our Lord, the joy and *solace* of our souls. Purge us so to *sanctify* thy day, that thy day may be a means to promote the *sanctification* of our souls. Let us bestow ourselves in exercising the holy season ; and not profane it with any vain and vicious purposes : But on the *Lord's day* may we abound in the work of

the Lord : and not do our own *works*, nor find our own *pleasure*, nor speak our own *words*, in the day which thou hast hallowed for thyself: But rest from all our *sinful* ways, as well as from our *common* labours ; and so delight ourselves in the Lord, that thou mayest give us the desires of our hearts.

And blefs to us thy *word*, O gracious Father, and all the *means* of *grace*, which through thy favour we do enjoy, that we may not use the same in *vain*, nor to our *hurt*: but for the further informing of our *minds*, the reforming of our *lives*, and the saving of our *souls* : still growing in *grace*, and in the *knowledge* of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ ; till we attain to be such as thy holy word requires we should be, in all holy conversation and godliness.

Great peace have they that *love* thy law, and nothing shall *offend* them. O dear Lord, increase our love to thy *word*, which the *angel* desire to look into ; and make our souls *pliable* and submissive, to be turned and ruled by it till we become in all things agreeable to it.

Bless us, our Father, and command a blessing upon all our pious designs and performances this *day* : And bless thy *servants* whom thou hast appointed to bless us in thy name, and to break the bread of *life* to our souls, that they may speak thy word as they ought to speak : and give to every one their portion in due season. And that thy word, which they deliver, may be to our conviction, edification, and comfort, and the Saviour of *life* to our souls. O the

thou hast the key of David, and openest and shuttest, thou that speakest to the church, and givest the *increase*, open our understandings to receive thy truth, both in the *doctrine*, and in the *love* of it. And set it home powerfully upon our *hearts*, and root it so deep in our *souls*, that the fruits may be seen in our *lives* : We being not forgetful *bearers*, but faithful *doers* of thy word.

And grant, O good God, that our services this day may be such, as may tend to our advantage and rejoicing, in the great day of thy appearing and glory : That we may follow these Sabbaths here upon earth, that hereafter we may be admitted to the joyful celebration of the eternal Sabbathism in thy kingdom of Heaven : there, with all the church triumphant, to laud and magnify thy glorious name, and to enjoy thy love, and sing thy praise for ever. And for the addition of this Sabbath to all the rest, for the benefit of thy church, and the ordinances of thy *worship*, and the *means* of grace, and hopes of thy eternal glory, to thee the God of all grace, be the praise and honour, and glory rendered by us, and by all thine, from this time forth, and for evermore. *Amen.*

Evening Prayer for the Lord's Day.

O LORD, our God ! thou art infinitely good, and thou hast shewed us what is good, and what thou requirest of us for our own greatest

greatest *good* always ; that it may go well with us, both now, and to all eternity. Thou fendest out thy *light* and thy *truth* amongst us, to make the way of life and salvation plain before us ; and thou givest us many opportunities and advantages to quicken and further us in thy knowledge and service, and in that way of our *duty* which leads to the kingdom of thy *glory*. We have line upon line, and precept upon precept ; thy *messengers* early and late, to open and apply thy *word* ; and to give us calls and warnings, directions, and exhortations, for the promoting of our *edification* here, and our *salvation* for ever. Thou hast not been wanting to us, O Lord, but we have been exceedingly wanting to *ourselves*, and to the duty which we owe unto our God ! And, O ! how little is it to be seen in our *lives*, how good and kind the Lord has been to our souls ! How have we loved *darkness* rather than *light*, and chose to follow the suggestions of our own foolish and hurtful *lusts*, rather than to be guided by the rules and prescriptions of thy holy blessed *word*, that has no design upon us, but to promote our present *peace* and our eternal *bliss* ! And, because we have so little improved all the precious *talents* which thou hast put into our hands, thou mightest, O Lord, justly take away the *gospel* of the kingdom from us, and give it to another *people*, that would bring forth *fruits* more worthy of it, and more answerable to it, than we have done. Because thou hast called, and we have refused ; thou
hast

hast stretched forth thy hands, and we have not regarded ; thou mightest therefore leave us to our own *perverseness* and *impenitence*, to add sin unto sin, till our *iniquities* became our ruin.

But, O Lord God, merciful and long-suffering ! we humbly beseech thee that thou wilt not so enter into judgment with thy servants : but in *mercy* pardon all our *contempt* of thy word, and our not *profiting* by it, and all the means of grace that we have had. And teach and help us for the time to come, better to use and improve such gracious *opportunities* set before us, to the glory of thy *name*, and the true benefit of our *souls*. As the *rain* descends from heaven and returns not thither, but waters the earth, and makes it fruitful, so let not thy *word* return unto thee void ; but accomplish thy good pleasure, and prosper in that whereunto thou art pleased to send it. O make it instrumental and effectual to *work* thy *grace*, where it is not : and to establish and increase it, where it is ; to edify and build us all up in the true fear and love of God, and in the right knowledge and faith of our Lord Jesus Christ.

And though we cannot now find, upon the review of our services this day, that we have duly kept a day *holy* to the Lord ; yet let not thy day, O gracious God, be a *lost* day to us, nor thy word as *water* spilt on the ground : but may the *spirit* cause thy word to do thy great and gracious *work* thoroughly and successfully upon all our *hearts* ; for which we may have
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cause

'cause to give thee praise and glory to all eternity. And as we perceive how we ought to walk, and to please thee our God, so help us to walk more worthy of the Lord, unto all *well-pleasing* ; increasing in thy *saving knowledge* : and being still more ready to, and more rich and fruitful in, every *good work*, that is pleasing in thy sight through Jesus Christ.

At his hands, O Lord our God, we beg thy gracious acceptance of our humble returns of *praise* and thanksgiving, for all blessings and favours spiritual and temporal, so freely conferred upon us, and so long vouchsafed and continued to us, even throughout our whole *lives*, until this present time. Thou hast dealt graciously with us, O blessed Lord, and been exceedingly good and kind to us, not only beyond all that we had reason to expect from thee ; but above all that we are able to *express* here before thee. We bless thy name, our heavenly Father, that in so many respects thou hast made us to differ from multitudes in the world ; who are destitute of those comforts and conveniences of this *life*, and means and hopes of a *better*, which through thy favour to us we do enjoy. We acknowledge thee in all ; and we desire to ascribe unto thee the whole *praise* and glory of all. Especially our souls desire to bless thee for the mercies of all *mercies*. which thou hast shewed, and still art pleased to continue to our *souls* ; particularly what we have received and experienced this *day* ; thy *house* open to us ; *the word of salvation* sounding

ounding in our ears, and the *spirit* of God striving with our hearts ; and helping our infirmities, and enlightening our minds, and reviving our souls.

O that we may not receive the grace of God in *vain* ; that all thy mercies may not be *lost* upon us : but that we may better answer the care and kindness of *heaven*, which we have so long and largely experienced, and that we may so thankfully *receive*, and carefully improve thy distinguishing favours to us, and all thy bountiful dealings with us ; that thou mayest not *withdraw* thy tender mercies from us, but still continue thy accustomed goodness to us, and *increase* thy grace and heavenly blessings upon us, and rejoice over us to do us good.

In mercy pass by all which in thy most pure and holy eyes (from which nothing is hid) have been amiss this day past, in any of our thoughts, desires, expressions, or actions. O pardon our *neglect* of what we should have done, and our guilt of what we have misdone. Forgive the iniquities of our *holy things* : and enter not into judgment with us, even according to the *best* of our works and services : but overlook all our sins and failings, and imperfections, thro' our great Mediator and Redeemer ; who does appear in the presence of God in our behalf, and ever lives at thy right hand, to make *intercession* for us. And for Jesus Christ, the blessed Author of all our *hopes* and *happiness*, and for all the comforts and good things of this life, and means and expectations of that eternal

glorious life to come, which thou art please to give us, together with him ; not unto us O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy *name* be all the praise and honour, and glory, humbly and heartily rendered and ascribed of us, and of all thy *church*, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

Another Evening Prayer for the Lord's Day.

O LORD, thou art good to the soul that seeks thee ; thou art full of *invitation* and all the *endearments* of love, to draw and encourage poor sinners to come unto thee. Thou dost not bid us seek thy face in *vain*, nor serve thee for *nought* ; but art a Lord, that hath *pleasure* in the prosperity of thy servants, and payest us not according to our poor imperfect services, but givest like thyself infinitely good, and most rich in mercy : *the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.* 'Tis not any thing in thy laws, O gracious Lord, but the sinfulness of our depraved *nature*, that makes any of them seem *grievous* to us, which are all *holy* and *just* and *good*, tending only to promote our present and eternal *happiness*. Nor is it any thing in thy blessed service, but the *indisposedness* of our own vile *hearts*, that makes any part of that *tedious* to us, which is the work and joy of *angels* ; and our wisdom, honour, and interest ; yea, what we may make our *delight*, as well as our *duty*, to perform. Holy God, we are all as an *unclean thing*, and all our very *righteousnesses* are as *filthy rags* : nor
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can we ever hope to be justified in thy sight, upon the account of any *works*, or *worth* of our own : for by our own *hearts* and *deeds* we are reprov'd and condemned, and should be left *speechless* in the judgment, if thou, O Lord, shouldst call us to account, according to the merits even of our *best services*. But we desire to take refuge and *sanctuary* under the shadow of our crucified Saviour ; and to be found in him, not having our own righteousness, but that which is by the faith of Jesus Christ, that the shame of our *nakedness* may be covered, and all our sinful *deformities* hid from thine eyes : that thou mayest *forgive* us mercifully, and receive us graciously, and *love* us freely in the Son of thy love, in whom thou art well pleased.

Command a blessing, we pray thee, O Lord, upon the *word*, which this day we have heard, and upon all the means of *grace* that have been used for the good of our souls. It is not of him that *planteth*, nor of him that *watereth*, but of thee our God, who giveth the *increase*. O be thou pleased to second the preaching of thy word with the powerful *influences* of thy grace and holy spirit ; that it may be the favour of *life* to our souls, and the *power of* God to our salvation. O let us so *bide* thy word in our *hearts* that we may not (as we have done) sin against thee, that it may be as a *treasure* within us ; to stand us in stead, in every hour of *temptation*, and in all the time and cases of our *need* : That we may walk more humbly and closely with our God, and more conscientiously

tiously and circumspectly before thee ; and be so obedient to the holy *precepts* of thy word ; that, finally, we may enjoy the glorious *promises*, of which it gives us the blessed reviving *hopes*.

Supply the want of thy *public* ordinances (we beseech thee) by the immediate *teachings* of thy good spirit, to all such as through any unavoidable *impediments* are kept from them. And continue to us, O gracious Lord, the light of thy *gospel*, and all the happy opportunities, which we enjoy for our *souls* advantage. And preserve us also, by thy grace, from the curse of *barrenness*, under all thy holy *means*, and abundant mercies ; for it were better for us we never had them, if we were not the *better* for them. That they may not therefore, hereafter rise up in *judgment* against us, O make them now *efficacious* to us ; and write thy laws in our *hearts*, and cause them to accomplish all the purposes of thy *grace* in our *souls*, and to shine forth with a convincing splendor in our *lives* ; to make us every way such as thou wouldst have us.

And now we give thanks (as we are infinitely bound) to thee, O Lord God, our heavenly Father, for the mercies of this *day* ; and for thy great mercy and goodness that has hitherto followed us all the days of our *lives* ; O how wonderful is thy patience and long-suffering, that thou shouldst all day long stretch forth thy hands to a *rebellious* and *gain-saying* people ! And how unwearied thy kindness and *love*,
that

t we still enjoy so many comforts with our
 s, who have taken the course to spoil all
 h our *sins* ! Yea, that thou shouldst not
 h-hold the *greatest* mercies from such as can-
 pretend to deserve the *least* at thy hands !
 fied be thy name, O most merciful Father,
 t thou hast defended us from so many *dan-*
s in our lives, which threatened to *destroy*
 ; and delivered us out of so many *troubles*,
 der which we should have *sunk* and perished,
 thou hadst not been nigh to us, and done
 at things for us. We bless thee for our
rich and *plenty*, *peace* and *liberty* ; for the use
 our *reason*, *limbs* and *senses*, and for the
 nforts of all thy good *creatures* ; for the
 idness of *friends*, and safety from our *enemies* ;
 the benefits and refreshments of *society*, and
 : success and prosperity of our *affairs* here in
 : world. But above all, we bless thee for
 : mercies and blessings relating to the *world*
come ; for Jesus Christ, and all spiritual bles-
 gs in heavenly things in him, tending to the
vation of our souls ; for remembering us in
 r *low estate*, and sending *eternal redemption* to
 by the hands of thy dear Son ; for the light
 d direction of thy *word* ; for the teachings
 d strivings, the aids and consolations of thy
spirit ; for all the *means* and *helps* which we have
 do us *good* ; for all thy *grace* wrought in us,
 d bestowed upon us ; and for all the discov-
 eries and hopes of *eternal glory*, which thou
 hast given to us. O how infinitely *indebted* !
 we to the kindness and love of God our Sa-

viour ! O that we may ever be *sensible* and *thankful* as we ought ! And with all that thou hast given us, blessed God, give us hearts filled with thy *love*, and lifted up in thy *praise*, and devoted to thy *honour* and *service*.

We can but acknowledge the vast *debt*, that we are never able to *pay*. We cannot *praise* thee according to the *riches* of thy grace, and the *multitude* of thy mercies : but we desire to bless and praise, with all the *capacities* and *abilities* wherewith thou hast blessed us. And help us, O Lord, our God, to glorify thy name, not only in speaking to thy *praise*, but so entirely devoting ourselves to thy *pleasure*, that we may be thine in faithfulness, and in the sincerity of our hearts, even all the days of our lives.

O make us truly *penitent* and humbled for all which this day we have done *amiss*, and make us unfeignedly *thankful* for all the *good* that we have received ; and for all which thou hast, in any manner or measure, enabled us to do *aright*. The *evil* is from ourselves alone, and to us belongs *shame* and confusion of face for it ; but all the *good* is of thy free *grace*, and thy mere mercy : and to thy blessed name, O Lord, our God, be all the *praise* and glory rendered, with the most sensible and grateful hearts, now and for evermore. *Amen*.

*'prayer for any intermediate Time of the
Lord's Day.*

LORD the God of glory ! thou fillest
heaven and earth with thy *presence*, fill
heart (I pray thee) with thy *grace*, and the
fulnefs of thy presence with me : that I
demean myself, as under thy awful eyes,
ever *manifest* in thy holy sight, who art
truly and constantly worshipped and ad-
ored by all the heavenly host of glorious
angels, and immortal *spirits* above, where thou-
sands minister unto thee, and ten
thousand times ten thousand stand before thee.
Angels, are they who are ever in thy blessed
presence, and still taken up in the joyful con-
solation and fruition of *thee*, and the *things*
of *heaven* ; who have an everlasting *period* put to
their sins, and troubles and temptations
below ; and have their souls full of *holi-*
ness, their hearts filled with *joy*, and their
lips with the everlasting *praises* of God. O
God, look down from heaven, the habitation
of thy holiness, and the throne of thy glory,
behold with pity the poor *remnant* of thy
people, who are yet upon our *warfare* and
image in this present evil world ; beset
by many and mighty malicious *enemies* of
souls, and groaning for deliverance from
bondage of corruption, that we may be
brought into the glorious liberty of the chil-
dren of God.

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The good Lord pardon every one of us, that now prepare and set ourselves to seek thy *face*, and to meet and enjoy our God in the *ordinances* of thy worship : though we be not cleansed according to the purification of the *sanctuary*, accept us in thy beloved Son, according to what we have, and fill us with thy good *spirit*, to make us what we would be. O give me a *devout* soul, and a *praying* heart ; that I may not only go over the *words* of prayer, or rest in any *forms* of godliness ; but may serve thee with my *spirit*, and lift up my *heart* to the Lord, and (as much as is possible) converse above.

It is good for men to *draw nigh to God* ; in whose service consists all our honour and bliss. O let my heart rejoice in seeking the Lord ; and with great liveliness, and love and cheerfulness, let me frequent thy *ways*, and study thy *word*, and admire thy *works*, and praise thy *name*. I bless thee, my God, that thou hast given me an *understanding* to know thee, a heart to love thee, and a *soul* capable of waiting upon thee in the duties of thy holy *immediate* service here, and capable of *enjoying* thee, in thy eternal heavenly glory hereafter. I bless thee for all opportunities and advantages which I have to serve thee, and to *work* out my salvation ; for the *ministry* of reconciliation committed to thy servants for all their labours and writings, and *preachings* ; and for all other means of *grace* and helps heaven-ward.

O give me also such a *love* to thy word, that
I may

I may value it above all the wealth of the *world*, and relish it better than all the pleasures of the *flesh*; esteeming the *words* of thy mouth more than my necessary *food*: And receiving it, not only in the *light*, but in the *love* of it, that I may be saved. And give me, Lord, a heart to fear thee, and keep thy commandments always, that it may go well with me, both now and for ever. O let me so make thy word the *rule* of my life, that it may also be the *ground* of my hope: and while it is sounding in my ears, O be thou also teaching my *heart* to make it efficacious and saving to my *soul*. And let there be such a *transcript* of the gospel in my life, that I may not only hear what it *says*, but be such as it *describes*. O gracious God! continue the *light* and joyful sound of thy *gospel* amongst us: And help us so rightly to use it, and to make our due benefit of it, that we may find cause to bless and praise thee for it. O that every Sabbath may add still to our *stature* in Christ Jesus; and that we may so *sanctify* thy Sabbaths now while we are on the *way*, that in the end we may attain to the blessed Sabbath of thy everlasting *rest*: There to live in the sight and love, and in the enjoyment and praises of thee our God, blessed for evermore. *Amen.*

*A Confession of the Sins forbidden, with Prayer
for Grace to perform the Duties enjoined in the
Commandments : (Preparatory to the Sacra-
ment, or at any Time of Humiliation.)*

O LORD, the great and glorious God !
against whom I have grievously offended :
and who for my sins art justly displeased : I
know not where to begin or end with the re-
hearsal of all my transgressions ; which are
more than I can *remember*, and greater than I
can *express*.

Thou art God alone, and there is none ba-
side thee, that hast absolute *sovereignty* over
me, and that can be full and final *happiness* to
me. But, O Lord, my God ; other *lords* be-
sides thee have had dominion over me. I have
idolized things in myself, and in this present
world ; and have set them in the stead of God ;
either disbelieving thy *being*, or forgetting
thy *presence*, or disliking to retain thee in my
thoughts ; and living *without* thee in the world.
I have not improved in thy knowledge, answer-
able to the means of instruction wherewith
thou hast blessed me. And that I have no
more and better knowledge of God, it is my
shame, and owing to my sinful dulness and
negligence in that which does most of all con-
cern me. I have not had all my *expectations*
from thee, nor my whole *dependence* upon thee,
nor my chief *hope* and *delight* in thee : but have
stuck and trusted to *creature-comforts* and *worldly*
enjoyments :

enjoyments: things short of thee, my God, to make me happy. O how have I hardened my heart against the *fear* of thy glorious Majesty; who can'st, whenever thou pleasest, kill and cast sinners into *hell*! Making bold to sin against the clear *light* which thou hast caused to shine upon me! And how have I shut my heart against the *love* of my chiefest good; who hast still been doing me good, and laying fresh obligations upon me, with thy *renewed* favour, every day! Loving the creatures and any sensual pleasures more than the God *blest* forever.

I have conceived injurious, unbecoming thoughts of thy infinite greatness and goodness, till I have become vain and wicked in my imaginations; thinking the most high and glorious God to be even such a one as *myself*. And instead of worshipping thee *in spirit and in truth*, it has been after my own fancy and humour, in a formal customary manner.

O what light account have I made of thy great *name*! And what little *zeal* have I shewed for thy honour and glory; How have I disregarded thy word and works, thy mercies and judgments, thy calls and warnings, and all thy offers and invitations; and either *neglected* the offices of thy worship, or *profaned* thy holy things, and abused religious duties, to cover my own offences: drawing nigh to thee with my *mouth*, when my *heart* has been far from thee.

Thy *day* I have not remembered as I ought, to keep it *holy*: but have used as *common*, what

thou hast set apart for *sacred* ; and borne the holy season as a *burden*, and made bold with thy *ballowed* time, to spend it upon my *foth* and lusts, and worldly trifles and carnal impertinences.

O how have I failed and sinned in all my *relations*. As a *superior*, in pride and vanity ; as an *inferior*, in stubbornness and envy : as a *parent* and *child*, *master* and *servant*, *friend* and *neighbour* : not discharging my duty in any capacity as I ought.

How careless have I been of my own and other *souls* ! How passionate and unmerciful, contentious and revengeful ! Bitter in my *words*, malicious in my *heart*, tempting some into *soul-ruining* sins ; and not doing what in me lies, to keep others from the wicked undoing of themselves ; not exerting my desires and endeavours to do *good* unto all.

O Lord, I am *unclean, unclean* ! defiled with filthy imaginations rolling in my *head*, and lustful desires harbouring in my *heart*, and breaking out in corrupt communication, and carnal carriage, and intemperate living after the *flesh*. Yea, I have been guilty of the *spiritual* whoredom, in forsaking the blessed *bridegroom* of my *soul*, to cleave to lying vanities ; and to keep up that friendship with the world, which is *enmity* with God.

I have been unfaithful in the unrighteous Mammon, and not honoured thee with my *substance* ; nor done the good which thou hast made me capable of doing, with the *world's* good :

good : but by idleness and injurious entrenching on the rights of others, or by profuse consuming my portion on my own lusts, I have been a sacrilegious *usurper* of thy good creatures.

O ! what vicious liberties have I taken to myself, in speaking *evil* of my neighbors ! Using them in my *words*; as I would ill resent to be used : flandering and reviling, dissembling or rash judging : and often wronging the *truth*, to avenge, to excuse, to exalt myself.

O what a nursery of *covetous* and *carnal* desires has been this corrupt and wicked *heart* of mine ! Cherishing and delighting in *evil motions* ; repining at others *welfare* : coveting all to *myself*, and catering only for the *flesh*, to fulfil its lusts.

Such sins I have committed against thy *holy law* : and I have also sinned against thy *gracious gospel*, O Lord ; not *acquainting* myself with the way of salvation by Jesus Christ : but neglecting so great salvation ; and disregarding the only Saviour, whom to know and win, I should have accounted all things else but *lost* and *dung*. I have not been awed by thy *threatenings*, nor taken with thy *promises* ; nor listened to the calls of thy *word*, nor yielded to the motions of thy *spirit* ; nor believed the *truths*, nor loved the days, nor plied the *means*, nor improved the *opportunities*, which thou hast graciously set before me : but have shut my eyes against the things of my *peace* ; and made light of all my Saviour's doings and sufferings, and *various methods*, for the salvation of my soul :

foul: taking pleasure in the enemies of *h*
cross; little concerned for the *success* of *h*
gospel; nor laying to *heart* my own, or other
sins; nor seriously *repenting*, nor fervent
praying; but doing all these things, as if I did
them not.

Such is my heavy *charge*: this is my heinous
guilt: O that I may not only *confess* it, but
duly *bumbled* for it! And lay my mouth in the
dust, if so be that yet there may be *hope*! As
is there hope for such a great and *provoking*
sinner? Lord of love, thou hast helped
many poor miserable *souls* in a low dangerous
case: and many (I believe) are now triumph-
ing and praising thee in *glory*, who much a-
long *rebelled* against thee here below. Such
are the wonders of thy *grace*, to get thee *glory*
in seeking and saving that which was lost.
And thy hand is not *shortened*; nor thy mercy
abated: but still thou art *able* and ready to
help and save, as ever thou wast. O put me
in the way where all thy *goodness* may pass be-
fore me: and help me to exercise such humili-
ation and repentance in thy sight, that thou
mayest exercise thy pardoning and saving mercy
upon my *soul*: and never lay my sins to my
charge, but upon his account who was made
sin for us, (though he knew no sin) that we
might be made the *righteousness* of God in him.
Nor do I only beg for *pardon* of sin, but
also for *power* against it. That thy *preventing*
may dash and break *temptations* in the first ap-
proach; and thy *assisting* grace enable me to

danger.
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in my calling, upright in my dealing, honouring thee with my *substance*; and doing good and not hurt, with what thou hast given me of the *world's* good. Help me, O righteous God, still to love and own, to confess and maintain the *truth*: candidly to interpret the sayings and doings of others; not delighting in their *shame*, but being as tender of their *reputation*, as I would desire they should be of mine. And help me, O my Lord, to resist the *beginnings* and first risings of evil motions in my mind: and to keep my heart with all diligence from giving any *harbour* there to covetous and unclean desires. O let me not give my mind to *earthly* things; nor be *carnally-minded*, which is death; but *spiritually-minded*, which is life and peace. And incline my *heart*, O good God, to meditate and love, and keep thy holy laws.

O make me resolved for, in love with, the life of *holiness*, according to thy blessed will and word. And let me not only think and *purpose* to live *godly* in Christ Jesus, but bring my purposes into *actions*, my actions into *habits*, and my habits into a holy lasting *perseverance*; enduring so to the end, that I may be saved. And through the ways of thy holy *commands*, O Lord, lead me to the joys of the heavenly *kingdom*: that having my fruit unto *holiness*, I may find the *end* everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Prayer before the Sacrament of the
Lord's Supper.*

O WHAT am I, poor unworthy sinful wretch, that I should go to the *table of the Lord*, and put myself on, for the portion of his *saints* ! Great God ! my guilt, and shame, and fear, do pull me back, and make me ready to conclude it *presumptuous* and *vain* for me, ever to expect such high honour and favour from thee ; after I have so *foully misbehaved* myself towards thee. I durst not think of making so near *approaches* to thy holy Majesty, but that thou art pleased to *invite* and *command* us so to do. Nor could I ever *hope* for such heavenly blessings at thy hands, O Lord, but that thou art so infinitely *good* and *kind*, even to such as deserve nothing from thee ! but to be *forsaken* and *abhorred* by thee. Instead of stretching forth a *sceptre* of mercy, to invite me to thy *table* ; thou mightest with *rod* of thy *wrath*, dash me in pieces as a *potter's vessel* : and instead of entertaining me with the bread of *life*, and the cup of *blessing*, mightest give me the bread and water of *affliction* ; and throw me down, where I should in vain cry out for a *drop* to cool my tongue.

But seeing thou art pleased to call even sinners that have *undone* themselves, to come unto thee for *help* : and hast appointed this *sacrament* as a means of *conveyance*, to help them to pardon and grace that stand in need of the same ;

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therefore,

therefore, seeing I do extremely *need thy pardoning mercy*, and thy sanctifying *grace* ; I come (Lord) though *polluted* and unfit to appear before thee : and I dare not but *come* ; as knowing that I shall be *undone*, keeping away from thee. I come not, Lord, because I am *worthy* ; but because thou art rich in *mercy*. I come as the poor *starved* wretch to the *fire* : I come as the *hungry* to be fed ; and as the *sick* and *maimed* to be *recovered* and *healed* : That I may wash in the *blood* of thy Son, and be *cleansed* : that I may receive of thy infinite fulness, all that is wanting in my wretched *self* : that I may *touch* my Saviour, as to perceive virtue from him ; to heal my sinful *fres*, and to enable me for thy faithful *service*.

O that I may come in the *humblest* manner, with all reverence and godly fear ; and with the most earnest *longings* after Christ Jesus ; and the heartiest *resolutions* to *live* unto him, that was pleased to *die* for me ! And do thou instruct me, O Lord, and assist me in the *examination*, the *humiliation*, and *preparation* of myself ; in order to my safe and comfortable participation of this holy *ordinance*. Before I compass thy *altar*, wilt thou purify my heart by *repentance* and *faith* in the blood of our great *Redeemer*. O let me receive a broken and bleeding Saviour with a broken and contrite *heart*. And make me so willing and obedient that I may eat the *good* of the ordinance ; so *conformable* to thee, that I may find *communion* with thee ; and may have not only *representation*

sentation, but a *participation* of Christ crucified. O turn in, my Lord, and be not as a *stranger* to the soul that is the purchase of thy own *blood*. Enrich thy *ordinance* with thy *presence*; that I may find him whom my soul desires to *love*, and whose love is better than *wine*: that Christ may appear and be known to my soul, in this *breaking of bread*: that I may receive such *life* from thee, as may enable me to live unto thee: and make me know, that thou *abideſt* in me, by the *ſpirit* which thou haſt given me.

Bleſſed Saviour! weigh not *mine*, but *thy* own merits: for I have not *deſerved* thee, but thou haſt *redeemed* me. I can never be worthy of thee; but give me, (I beſeech thee) ſuch agreeable diſpoſitions, apprehenſions, affections, and reſolutions, in my coming to thee; that I may eat and drink *worthily*, of what I am to receive from thee: that I may participate of thy ſacred *body* crucified, and thy precious *blood* ſhed for us, with ſuch diſcerning, and reverence, and penitence, and faith, and love, and thankſfulneſs, as I ought to do. And what I am not in myſelf, O do thou *make* me, out of thy own infinite *fulneſs*; ſuch a meet *receiver* at thy table, that I may find welcome with thee, to my preſent *conſolation* and my everlaſting *ſalvation*.

O thou that haſt prepared a *table* in this wilderneſs, with heavenly proviſions for our ſouls, prepare my ſoul, dear Lord, for theſe *proviſions*; and give me ſpiritual appetite, as
I well

well as spiritual *sustenance* : that as the *hart* pants after the water-brooks, my *soul* may pant after thee, O God : that with desire I may desire to eat this *passover* ; and so *open* my mouth, that thou mayest fill my hungry soul with thy good things, and so lift up the everlasting *doors* of my *heart*, that the King of Glory may come in ; that Christ may *dwell* in my heart by faith, and *abide* with my spirit, as long as I am to abide here in the flesh.

O make thy ordinance *healing*, and the favour of *life* to my soul. And make it also a *sealing* ordinance, to clear up to me the pardon of my sins, and the assurance of thy *love*. And as thou sealest the covenant of *grace*, O let me seal the covenant of *obedience* : and in such a devout and acceptable manner come unto thy *table*, that I may return from it with my *conscience* quieted, my *corruptions* subdued, my *graces* increased, and my *soul* encouraged, with an enlarged heart, to *run* the way of thy commands.

Ah Lord ! to whom should I repair but unto thee my *life*, my *strength*, and my Redeemer ! O thou that callest unto thee the *labouring* and *heavy-laden* sinners, help me so to come to thee, that in thee I may find *rest* for my soul. Thou that hast commanded us to break out *bread* to the *hungry*, O break the *bread of life* to all of us that hunger and thirst after *righteousness* : and give us, O Lord God, our heavenly Father, evermore give us this *bread*. And thou that art pleased still to continue to

us the *liberty* and *advantage* of this ordinance to nourish and revive our *souls*, O work in our hearts a higher *esteem* for it, and a greater *love* to. And in our *preparations* before we eat and drink at thy table, in our *communicating* there, and our *conversation* after, O teach and help us to carry *beseeming* the holy heavenly *feast*; and as becomes *redeemed* and *obliged* of the Lord, and the very living *members* of Jesus Christ.

Hear me, O Lord my God, and forgive me; bless and direct me, quicken and assist me in the work now lying upon me: and be good to me, and deal graciously with me; that I may discharge all my offices *heartily* as to the Lord, and with good *acceptance* in the sight of God, through the beloved of thy soul, the only Saviour of mine. Amen, Amen.

*A Prayer for Grace to Relinquish, and give up
ourselves to God.*

O MY great and glorious Maker and Redeemer, my continual preserver and keeper, my only Lord and owner! *Thine* I am every way, by all the ties of *duty* and *love*; and not at my own *disposal* to do what I will with myself: for thou hast formed me for *thyself*, and dearly ransomed me, after I had lost myself. Yea, I have been solemnly *devoted* to thee, and vowed to renounce all *tempters* for my heart and service, that would *rival* with my blessed Lord: and obediently to serve thy divine *pleasure*, and to walk in thy holy ways,

all the days of my life. And to be so true and faithful in the *covenant* of my God, is not only my *obligation*, but my *honour* and *interest*, my highest *perfection*, and my greatest *bliss*.

But with confusion and remorse, I must acknowledge, O Lord, how I have sacrilegiously *alienated* myself from thee, and most foolishly and wickedly *forsaken* thee, to serve other lords; yea, to be under the power and *servitude* of my own vain humours and brutish lusts; not concern'd so much to please thee, as *myself*: as if I were so my *own*, that I had no Lord over me, to whom belongs all the *right* and *title* to me. O my God! forgive and mortify this wicked and pernicious *selfishness* in me: and let me no longer unjustly *withhold* myself from thee: nor madly expose myself to ruin, by living in the world without thee; nor hang in a tremulous *suspence* between God and Mammon, vainly thinking to hold in with *both*: but make me so wise and considerate, not only of my *duty* but of my own *felicity*; as willingly and cheerfully to surrender and *devote* myself to the blessed Author of my *being*: that so I may both answer the *end* for which I was made, and also attain the *happiness* whereof I am capable. Seeing all that are *far* from thee shall *perish*, as branches cut from the living *root* that feeds them; and I have no *sufficiency* in myself, but derive all my good from the *union* with my God: I am convinced, O Lord, that I am thine, by thy undoubted *right*; and that I ought to yield up myself for such, by my own
free

free *choice*, and voluntary *act*. It is best for me so to do ; and I can never do well, in landing off from it. O bring me to it, and make me *faithful* and hearty in it.

My Lord ! break all the ties that *detain* me from thee : and seize and take me for thy *own* : *ea*, keep and continue me in thy *fear* and *love* to my life's end. And upon my mind and memory, upon my will and affection, upon my heart and conscience, O write *holiness* to be Lord : and every way make me willing wholly to be *thine*. Let thy will ever be mine in all things : and melt down this stubborn *will* into a ready compliance with thy holy *pleasure*. O let me love and hate, and joy and dislike, as thou dost. Let my soul and body, and all the faculties and powers of both, be under thy *conduct*, and employed to thy *glory*. Let all that I am, and all that I have, (whatever is *mine*) O let it be *thine* ; not in pretence only, but in deed and in *truth*. And never let me think it *hard* to renounce all for *thee* ; who art infinitely *better* than all else that ever can tempt me.

O help me so sincerely to *deny* myself, that I may own no guide and ruler, but my great Lord and Proprietor : that my *eyes* may be ever towards thee, and my whole *dependance* upon thee ; and that thou mayest be *all* in *all* to me and thy *word* my *rule*, and to promote thy *honour* and *pleasure*, my great aim and endeavour : that in all things thou mayest ever be *regarded* and *preferred*, and glorified by me *through Jesus Christ*. Amen.

Some devout Ejaculations and Elevations of the Soul, before receiving at the Lord's Table.

I. **B**LESSED be my God, that again pleased to call me to the *reconciliation feast* : and after all my breaches with him, at all my offences against him, yet to grant me a new *indulgence* ; and to seal my *pardon* afresh in the precious blood of his *dear Son*, that washed to take away the *sins* of the world.

II. At thy gracious *invitation*, Lord, I am bold to come, looking for that blessed *benefit* which I know myself so unworthy to receive : that thou mightest justly *bar* up the doors of mercy against me, and *withhold* thy saving grace from me. But thy *mercies*, blessed God, are not to the *deserving* and *worthy*, but to the *miserable* and *needy*. O let me find them, and need them ; according to the riches of thy *bounty*, and according to the greatness of my *necessity*.

III. I have no *might* for this great work : but I will go in thy *strength*, O Lord my God. Give me, I beseech thee, the *dispositions*, which thou requirest : and *work* in me : what thou *call* for from me. O let me find thy *band* upon me, thy *help* with me, and thy *grace* sufficient for me.

IV. O that I may see thy *power* and thy *glory*

so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary ! That I may share in the heavenly entertainment of thy children, and eat and drink in thy presence, that bread of life, and that cup of blessing, which may be the life of my soul, and make glad my heart, even with the joy of thy salvation.

V. O what shall I do at thy *house*, and thy *table*, Lord, if thou dost not appear, to *receive* and *entertain* me ? O that thou wouldest, in wonderful condescension *bow the heavens and come down*: and make me experience thy *presence* with me, and that power of thy *spirit* upon me ; and that *loving-kindness* of thine, which is better than *life* !

VI. O let not the great Lord and Lover of *souls*, keep off as a *stranger* to my soul ! But *look forth at the windows, and shew himself through the lattice, and remember me in saving mercy, where he feeds, where he makes his flock to rest* : and let me now *taste*, and *see* (to the satisfaction of my soul) how *good* the Lord is.

VII. I desire to *shelter* under the *shadow* of my Lord Redeemer ; and to be found in Christ Jesus, endued with that *righteousness* of his, which is sufficient both to atone for all my *guilt*, and also to fill up all my *wants* ; yea to make me *complete* and meet for the *love* of God, and for the *felicity* of his *chosen*. O God of all grace ! give me, I beseech thee, thy Christ to be my Jesus : and *grant me a particular saving interest*

in that great *redemption*, which he brings to the poor sinful *lost* world : that *my soul may magnify the Lord, and my spirit may rejoice in God my Saviour.*

VIII. O thou that art able to do it, bring me into the *bonds of the covenant* : and let me *voluntarily* and cheerfully enter it : not as *compelled* to it or aggravated at it ; but willing and glad with all my *heart*, to be secured in such blessed *hands*.

IX. O make me *willing in the day of thy power* : and may I this day experience, Lord, the powerful workings of thy blessed *spirit* ; to open and enlarge my *heart*, and make me ready and fit, and joyful, to receive him who *stands at the door and knocks* ; even to receive Christ Jesus the Lord into my soul.

X. O how *unworthy* am I, Lord, that thou shouldest come *under my roof* : unworthy to eat the *crumbs* that fall under thy table ! but thy infinite *merits* can cover all my sins and unworthiness ; and recommend me to the just and holy Majesty of heaven, even as if I had not *sinned*. O deal so *graciously* with me, my Lord, and my God, I beseech thee, and *forgive*, and *heal*, and *help me* ; and exercise thy *power* and *piety*, and great *salvation* upon me : and come into my *soul*, with all the blessings and consolations of thy coming into the world.

XI. O Lord ! my soul is polluted and unclean,
unclean :

unclean : but thy precious blood can *cleanse* me from all my sins and defilements ; and make me fit to receive thee, to my *profit* and *comfort* : O speak thou the word, and I shall be *clean* and *whole* : and my soul shall *live* and for ever *bless* thy name.

XII. Assist me mercifully, O Lord, in my designs and endeavours to obtain the blessed *fruits*, whereof thou hast made me capable. O forgive my *unworthiness* ; cover my *deformities* ; help my *infirmities* ; quicken my *dulness* ; prepare me for thee : draw me unto thee : bring me into the *enjoyment* of thee ; now in *part*, as far as can attain : and hereafter in *fulness*, as much as my heart shall *desire*, and that for ever.

XIII. O that thy ordinance now may be the means of my *establishment* ; to derive unto my soul, out of the *fulness* of Christ Jesus, *grace* sufficient to make me *holy* and *lively*, and *able* for my duty : *faithful* in it, and *constant* to it ! And what I have not in myself, Lord, do thou *give me* : and what I am not of myself, O do thou *make me*, for thy own mercy's sake. Amen, Amen.

Thanksgiving and Prayer after the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

I DESIRE with all my soul to adore and magnify thy blessed name, O Lord God, my heavenly Father, for all the *expressions* of thy love and bounty, to me a poor unworthy sinner.

sinner. Particularly for thy precious favours and the renewed *Pledges* of thy love in Christ Jesus which I have received from thee this *day* ; that thou hast admitted me, not only into thy *house* but to thy *table* ; and used me as thy *friend* and the child of thy family ; who deserves to be cast out as an *enemy*, and to be trampled even as the *off-scouring* of all things. O what manner of *love* is this, that I should fare so *well*, and deserve so *ill* at thy hands ! O that it should be so done to wretched sinful men. That the God so greatly offended by us, should not only *forgive* us, but entertain and *feast* us with all the good things, which our blessed Saviour has merited and prepared for us ! Lord what is man, that thou art so *mindful* of him, and the son of man that thou so *visitest* him. And what am I, one of the vilest and sinfulness of men, that the great Lord, so *ill* used by me, should deal so exceeding *graciously* with me ! O make me to know the things that are freely given me of God, and how much I do owe unto the Lord, for all thy kindness to my *soul*, which thou hast *redeemed* and eternally *obliged* to thy *self*. O give me a heart deeply sensible of thy mercy, and steadfastly purposing to live to thy *glory* ; that I may shew my thankfulness for thy *benefits*, by my obedience to thy *precepts*. O keep me mindful of the *vows of God* upon me : and help me to live, as having my *body Redeemer* now dwelling in me.

And as I have received Christ Jesus the Lord,

enable me to *walk* in him ; to walk more *wor-*
thy of the Lord unto all well-pleasing ; to walk
in *love*, as Christ loved us ; and to go on in the
length of what I have *received* from thee, to
give unto thee : following after *holiness*, as being
not only brought so *nigh* to, but intimately
injoined with the *holy one* of God.

As I have eat and drank the *sacramental* bread
and wine, to the nourishment and refreshment
of my frail *body* ; so let the *crucified* body and
shed blood of God my Saviour, nourish and
sustain my immortal soul unto life eternal : and
revive me with the sense of thy pardon and
peace, and love, that's better than *wine*, and
better than *life* itself.

And O that the *sacrifice* of Christ Jesus, (that
sacrifice of himself) which he offered upon the
cross, and which I have this day been commem-
orating at thy *table*, may *atone* for all the
failings and miscarriages in my preparations
and performances ! That upon the account of
that grand *propitiation* for the sins of the whole
world, I may be spared and accepted with thee
my God, here to thy blessed *love*, and hereafter
to thy heavenly *glory* : through him that gave
himself *for us*. and has also given himself *to us* ;
even the Son of thy *love* ; and the great Lover
of our souls : for whom, and to whom, with
thy *eternal self* and *holy spirit*, be all thanks and
praise, and honour, and glory, ascribed of me,
and of all thy *church*, now and for evermore.
Amen.

*Some devout Ejaculations and Elevations of the
Soul, after receiving at the Lord's Table.*

I. **G**LORY be to thee, O Lord our God, that in our extreme *need* of a Redeemer thou hast made such gracious *provision* for our souls; and sent thy Son to *die* for our sins, and to *save* us who had destroyed ourselves. And that he offered himself upon the *cross* for us; pleased to offer himself at his *table* unto us. Where I have been tasting the fruits of his *love* and receiving my *share* among the *redeemed* of the Lord.

II. I bless thee, my God, for the mercies of a Saviour; without which all mercies else would be *unavailable*, and do me no good. I bless thee, that thou hast not withheld thy Son, thy *only* Son from us, but given him to be the *propitiation* for our sins, and to be the *life* and *food* of our souls.

III. *I sat down under his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.* I have been entertained at the *table of the Lord*: and there *his banner over me was love*. 'Twas love that gave me the Saviour whom I have been receiving; and the opportunity now to come, and *rest* and *feast* my soul upon him.

IV. *Return to thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with thee.* Thy life is given
th

thee at his hands : who forgiveth all thy sins, and bealeth all thy diseases : and not only redeems thee from destruction, but crowns thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies ; and satisfies thy mouth with good things, and those the best of all things, even his pardon and peace, his Son, and his spirit ; the riches of his grace, and the pledges of his glory.

V. Blessed be my God, for that bread which came down from heaven, to give life unto the world. And blessed be thy name, O gracious Lord, for my share in this highest expression of thy wonderful love and bounty.

VI. Eternal thanks and praise be unto thee, O blessed God my Saviour, for all thy glorious achievements, in laying the sure foundation for our good hope, and everlasting consolation.

VII. Thou hast loved us, and redeemed us, and washed us from our sins in thy own blood. And O how infinitely indebted am I to thy mercy, that thou callest me to this sweet heavenly entertainment ; which cost thee so dear, to purchase and provide for us !

VIII. O make me more sensible of thy love, and more thankful for all its blessed effects ; and let me now find the happy fruits of strength and refreshment to my soul ; even strength against all the temptations, that would pluck me from thee, and engage me in rebellion against thee ; and such refreshment as may take my heart off all

the *pleasures* of sin ; and make it *my meat*
drink to do the will of my heavenly Father.

IX. After I have tasted the pleasures of
 Father's *house*, O let me not go to feed in
huts. And let nothing wear off or wear
 the favour that I have had of things *heavenly*
 nor let a *world* part between me and the blessed
 Saviour of the world.

X. Let me not turn my *back* upon the Lord
 of *love*, that has been so good and kind to
 my *soul*. O let me not *break* with my heavenly
 Sovereign, to whom now again I have vowed
allegiance.

XI. Whether shall I go from thee, O blessed
 Jesus, who hast the *words* and the *gift* of eternal
 life ! All is in thy *hands* ; and thou art
best of all Lords, who dost not rule us, but
blest us : and canst have no ends upon our
ordering of us, but only to keep off ruin from
 and to secure the highest *happiness* to us.

XII. I will admire, and love, and praise
 Lord : I will believe and trust in his *tried me*
 I will rejoice and glory in his *great salvation*
 And who shall pluck me out of his *hand*
 What shall *separate* me out of his love !
beloved is mine, and I am his. Thine I am
 Lord, and thine I *will be*, while I have
 being.

XIII. Yet Lord of all power and love
beseech thee keep thy servant from falling :
 pu

preserve me in every time and case of *danger*.
 O do not suffer me to *undo* myself; but pity
 my *frailty*, and relieve my *infirmity*: and in thy
 hands let me be safe, and never *perish*, but
 attain to *everlasting life*: through Jesus Christ,
 my great Redeemer and only Saviour. *Amen,*
Amen.

Prayer and Humiliation for a public Fast-Day.

O LORD God, glorious in *holiness*, and of
 purer eyes than to behold any *iniquity*
 without abhorrence of it, and indignation
 against it! How shall man, *sinful* man, that
 drinks in iniquity like *water*, appear before
 thee? And how shall we, vile and frail, pol-
 luted and depraved as we are, shew ourselves
 in the *presence* of such a great and wise, just
 and holy God, as thou art! When we look
 upon thy perfect *law*, and see what we should
 be, what manner of persons, in all *holy* conver-
 sation and godliness; and when we reflect on
 our own *hearts* and *lives*, and find what we are;
 how *wanting* in our duty, and how *contrary* to
 that holy rule, which thou dost prescribe us
 by which to keep our hearts, and to order our
 conversation: We cannot come into thy pre-
 sence, O Lord, without *confusion* of *face*, and
anguish of soul, and *remorse* of conscience, to
 think how foolishly and wickedly we have
 done; and how abject and wretched we have
 made ourselves; even viler than the dust of the
 earth, or any thing that moves upon it.

Besides that we brought with us a *corrupt name* into the world, full of strangeness to the our God, and full of enmity against thy holy good, and righteous *laws* ; we have *mispent* the most of our *time* here in the neglect of thy *work* and in disobedience against thy *word* ; daily multiplying our *offences* against thee, as thou hast been pleased daily to multiply thy *blessing* and favours upon us. O the precious *time* that we have lost, the means that we have neglected the *mercies* that we have abused, the *calls* and *warnings*, *offers* and *invitations*, that we have disregarded ! How bold have we made with thy glorious Majesty, and with thy holy *laws* ! What little awful *regard* have we had of thee ! What little conscientious fear of offending thee !

O the crying sins and abominations, the prevailing wickedness, and the bold open impieties, [*The swearing and drunkenness, the pride and uncleanness, the cruel enmity, and all manner of injustice, the corrupt communication, and ungodly conversation*] whereby God is so greatly dishonoured and provoked every day, almost every where ! And O how large a share have we had in adding to the *public* guilt ! Sinning as we have done, in all estates and affairs in all relations and circumstances of our *lives* ! And not only through weakness and surprise, and the violence of *temptations* : but many times knowingly, wilfully and presumptuously ; with a high *hand*, and stiff *neck* against thee, our glorious Maker, and Judge *eternal* : and O how great a weight have we

add

added to all our other sins, by the *hardness* of our hearts, and our *impenitent* continuance in our sins ! Committing *great sins* with *little remorse*, little penitent *concernment* for all the evils whereof we have been guilty ! Yea, Lord, how unsuitable still are our *hearts* and our *lives* to those holy rules, which thy *word* gives us in charge to follow ! So much is there still amiss with us, and *wanting* in us, that it is the great abounding mercy of our Lord, thou dost yet *lengthen* out our lives, and thy *patience* with us ; and still leave us any of these opportunities, to humble ourselves before thee, and to cry for *mercy* to thee, in that day of *grace*, which through the *forbearance* of our God is yet over us.

We have not *glorified* thee, O Lord, in bearing fruits of *holiness* answerable to thy revealed will, and to thy obliging love : But we desire to give *glory* to God, in confessing our sins, and humbling our *souls*, and acknowledging our *desert* of all thy judgments : and admiring and magnifying the *riches* of that grace and mercy, which has spared us so long a time, and shewed us such marvellous kindness still, notwithstanding all the high *provocations* of our sins. Lord, we have heard (and blessed be thy ~~name~~, we have found) that the King of *heaven* is a merciful King. That with thee, our God, ~~there~~ is *mercy*, that thou mayest be feared ; that our sins, though great and manifold, may ~~be~~ *pardoned* ; and that our souls, though *sinous*, and much endangered, by reason of

our sins, may be *recovered* and *healed*, and eternally *saved*: O help us so to excuse, and judge, and condemn *ourselves*, that we may not be judged of the Lord, to be condemned with the world; and so to lay our sins to *heart*, that thou mayest never lay them to our *charge*, but upon the account of thy Son, our Saviour; whom thou hast given to be the *propitiation* for our sins: and in whom thou art a God gracious and merciful to poor sinners; that deserve nothing at all from thee, but to be forsaken and abhorred by thee. For his sake, O good God! give us *repentance* and *pardon* for all that is past, wherein we have offended thee; whether they be our sins of omission, or commission; sins of weakness or wilfulness: failings or presumptions; the sins of ignorance, or such as we have committed against light and knowledge; O gracious Lord, humble us duly under the *sense* of them and *absolve* us thoroughly from the *guilt* of them. O set our sins in order before us, and make us to know our transgression, and the pleasure of our own hearts; and every one of us so to search and try our ways, that we may *turn* to the Lord, and bring forth fruits meet for *repentance*: and not only loath *ourselves* in our own sight, for the evils whereof we have been guilty: but also loathe, as much as ever we have loved, the things which displease thy holy *will*, and dishonour thy blessed *name*. O that we may *forsake* our sins, not only in the outward *commission*, but in the inward affection; not reserv-

ing to ourselves any sin or lust to be *spared*, nor any way of wickedness, wherein we would be *allowed* : but keeping at that *distance* which thy holy word teaches us to keep, from every evil and accursed thing, that is *abomination* in thy sight, and *destructive* to our souls : and cleansing ourselves from all *filthiness* of flesh and spirit, endeavouring to perfect *holiness* in the fear of God.

We have been accessory to the accumulated heinous *guilt* that endangers us all, and calls for judgments on the *land*. O that we may be as forward to *contribute* our help, by the *humiliation* of our souls, and the *reformation* of our lives, to save our *nation* ; and to turn away the anger gone out against us, that we *perish* not. Save us, O Lord, from our sins, which are the enemies of our own house ; more mischievous to us than any other evils or enemies *abroad*. O pour out a spirit of serious *repentance* and *reformation* upon the whole *nation* ; to heal the distempers of our *souls*, to curb the disorders of our lives, and to recover the decayed *power* of godliness in the *land* : and so prepare and dispose us not only for thy *temporal* mercies, but for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to *eternal* life. Help us so to turn from the evil of our *ways*, that thou mayest turn from the fierceness of thy *wrath*, and cause thy anger towards us to *cease*. O that we may *fear* the rod, and who has appointed it ! And so prepare to meet thee our God, in the way of thy judgments, that the God of peace may think

think thoughts of *peace* to us, and not of *evil* to give us an expected *end*, and the desired *issue* out of all our fears and dangers.

Thou canst shew us great and mighty things which we know not, and exceed all our *expectations*, as well as our *deservings*, by thy bountiful favours ; and tho' thou mightest make us know the *worth* of slighted mercies, by their *want* ; and deprived us of all the *good*, which we have so little *improved*, and so greatly *abused* : yet, O how many *promises* of thy word, and what frequent *experience*, which we have had of thy mercy, in time of our need, do encourage us still with *hope* to look unto thee, our God and to wait for the salvation of the Lord ! O how long (in all our provocations) hast thou *spared* us ! And how often (in our distresses) sent wonderful *redemption* to us ! And to thee who *hast* helped and delivered, we look still for help and deliverance. O our God, be thou pleased to take the *motive* now from thy own *mercy* that has so far been pleased to interest thy *glory* in our *safety* ; and go on to help and deliver us, for the *glory* of that mercy, which first made us thy *people*, and still has owned us for thy peculiar *care*. O do not abhor us, ~~nor~~ *for*sake us for thy name's sake : but be *jealous* for thy *land*, and pity thy *people*. Turn us again, O Lord God of Hosts, and cause thy face to shine, and we shall be saved.

Either in mercy *turn* away the evils from us ; *or* *prepare* us for them, and support us under *them*, and bring us happily out of them : that

we may not sink and *perish* in them, but find *spiritual* good, by *temporal evils* ; and find the light momentary *afflictions* to work for us a far more exceeding and eternal *weight of glory* ; and all things concurring to promote our grace and our peace with God, through Jesus Christ. And though thou shouldst feed us with bread of *adversity*, and water of *affliction*, yet let not our *teachers* be removed into *corners* ; nor bring us under a *famine* of the word of the Lord : or give us over to the *formality* of a *lifeless* profession ; under all the means of grace, to send *leannefs* into our soul. Though thou permit the *floods* and *storms* to arise and increase ; yet fortify us so by thy *grace*, that we may not be *moved* by any of these afflictions ; so as to turn the blessed advantage of *suffering* for thee into an occasion of *falling* from thee.

Seeing the *truth* itself will not make us *free* if we are not *true* to it ; and the *purest religion* cannot be our defence ; when we continue still so bad, as to shroud the *worst conversation*, under the best *profession*, O help us, Lord, to rid our hands and our hearts of all the *accursed* things, that provoke thy *wrath* and indignation against us. And let us wisely consider of thy *sinners* ; and know the *time* of our visitation ; and hearken to the calls, and take the warnings, and improve the means and mercies vouchsafed to us, while we have them ; and follow the conduct of thy good providence, and comply with all thy gracious *methods* used, to reclaim us from our *sins*, and to reform our *lives*, and save our

but put us out of *patience*, and filled us w
 prejudice against thy righteous hand, and w
 hard and unworthy thoughts of our God. A
 so, we have made shift still to keep the *hold*
 our sins, notwithstanding all thy various *metho*
ds to break us of them.'

Yea, to thee, O Lord, *who searchest*
hearts, and triest the reins, we must acknowle
 and bewail the sins of our *hearts* and *minds* :
 vain, thoughts, and proud imaginations,
 lustful and covetous desires, our envious a
 malicious projects : for these corrupt the *fo*
untain, and defile the habitation of thy ble
spirit. These are the seeds and roots of all
 other *evils* in our lives ; and render us even
criminal in thy sight, as we had outwardly *at*
 what we have so inwardly *devised*. Such
 inclinations and profaneness to evil, (approvi
 of it and delighting in it, and consenting to
 carries so much guilt and *malignity* along w
 it, that even for this, thou mightest ju
abhor us and *condemn* us, *in that day when*
thou shalt judge the secrets of men, by Jesus Christ.

Thus we must *criminate* and arraign o
 selves ; confessing that *iniquities prevail aga*
us, temptations are still pressing upon us ;
 our sins, O how often do they get the *ascend*
 over us ! Still we are offending our holy Lo
 and still we carry in us the corrupt nature,
carnal mind, the opposition to thy righteous l
 are *enmity* against God, and threaten us w
 thy wrath and ruin.

We read of such as cannot cease from sin :

such, O Lord, thou knowest us in a great measure to be ; that have brought ourselves under the sad *necessity* of sinning against thee ; and so entangled our guilty souls in the tempter's snare, as to be *taken captive by him, even at his will.*

We call to mind, with shame and remorse, how we have provoked the eyes of thy *jealousy*, and *affronted* thy glorious Majesty ; how frequently we have so sinned, and how heinously offended.

But after all this (so much amiss that we have done, and when we cannot but thus acknowledge what great and provoking sinners we have been) yet O what sorry works have we made of our *repentance* for our sins ! O how little have we done at it, but *trifle* with it ! Even when we talk of *humiliation*, and pretend to it, and argue for it, O Lord, thou knowest how seldom we have *engaged* in it, and how *superficially* we have gone over it, in the proper *seasons* for it : how hard and *unrelenting* have been our hearts ! and how *loth* and backward to the most needful *work* !

O, good God ! wilt thou *humble* us, that we have been no more *humbled* ; and lay not to our charge the sins of those *services* which we have so ill performed. And seeing *unrepented* sins are the cause of thy dreadful *judgments*, O that the dread of thy *judgments* may drive us out of all such *sins* ! And when the *wrath of God is revealed from heaven against them*, O let us not dare to continue in them. When the axe

is laid to the root of the tree, and thy hand lifted up, as ready to do execution upon us, that we may be so warned and reclaimed, and bring forth such fruits meet for repentance, that we may not be hewn down and cast into the fire, nor die and perish in our sins! but may find a way of escape, and mercy from the Lord, a grace to help in all times of our need.

And the Lord in mercy pity our frailties and infirmities, and *forgive* us all our sinful negligences and iniquities. And for what is still wanting us, O be thou graciously pleased to accept the full and perfect merits and righteousness of thy dear Son, our most holy Saviour: and let his precious *blood* be heard speaking for us, where we have nothing to say for ourselves, and where we are so unworthy to be heard on our own account.

Be merciful, O God, to this sinful *nation*, that thou hast so long enjoyed, and so much abused thy rich and sundry blessings, and still goes on to provoke thee daily. O forgive the many *criminal* sins, for which thou mightest justly abhor and reject us, and lay us desolate, and so forsake us utterly, as to be favorable to us no more. Yet grant us thy *grace* we beseech thee, so to *repent* and *amend*, that we may be *spared* and *saved* from all the judgments which we have so much deserved.

O that all thy warnings and threatenings, and chastenings, may not leave us still an *unrepentant* and *incorrigible* people, nor pass over us, without *working* an humble submission, and unfeigned repentance.

penitance upon us ! O that we may find the *effected reconciliation with our God*, in humbling ourselves before thee, returning unto thee, and bringing forth such *fruits* of new and better obedience, as (*in the Lord our righteousness*) shall be favourably accepted by thee. That we may not *sink* under our fears, nor be *ruined* by our sins, but *plucked as a brand out of the fire* : to arrive our dread and danger, and to *see the good of thy chosen, and rejoice in the gladness of thy nation, and glory with thy inheritance.*

And for all the *mercy* which in *judgment* thou hast still remembered towards us : and for all thy wonderful patience with us, and long-suffering of us ; and that continued matter and occasion of *thankfulness*, which we have yet before us ; that we are not *all consumed*, nor only *spared*, but many ways still blest and *favoured* : *not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to thy name* alone be all the praise and glory rendered with humble and grateful hearts, by us, and by all thine every where, now and for evermore. Amen.

An Addition in Time of War.

O LORD, the great and dreadful God ! against thee we have so greatly sinned and carried us such enemies to thy glory ; that thou mayest justly use our enemies as thy *scourge* to correct us, and to make us feel some of the *mart* of our sins : for which it is meet that we should patiently bear thy *indignation*, even under such thy *dealings*. But however thou shalt be pleased

pleased to express thy *anger* against us, O let us not fall into their hands, whose very mercies are *cruel*. Arise, O God, let not man prevail, nor those that hate us swallow us up : but *scatter* them by thy power, and bring them down, O Lord, our shield. Thou that makest the *wrath* of man to praise thee, O work thy *glory* even out of that which looks so *contrary* : yea restrain the *remainder* of their *wrath* ; and put a stop to the *effusion* of blood, that wars may cease, and our land have rest, and thy people be blessed with *peace*. Our eyes are upon thee, our great Saviour and mighty Deliverer, to give us help from *trouble*, because vain else is all the help of *man*. In times of danger, O be thou our Shield and Buckler : and when our sins lay us open to the malice of enemies, gracious God, be thou our *hiding*-place, to preserve us from the feared *evils*, and deserved judgments. O for thy *truth*'s sake, for thy *church*'s sake, for thy beloved Son, our blessed Saviour's sake, spare us, good Lord, and give us not up a reproach to the *enemies* of our holy religion ; nor let them ever have cause to rejoice in our *ruin*.

O go forth with our *armies*, thou Almighty Lord of *hosts*, and bless and prosper all, both our *land* and *naval* forces. And that we may not be in rebellion against *heaven*, while others are warring against us, O save us from our *provoking* sins, and direct our ways to *please* the Lord ; and help us so to make our peace with our God, that thou mayest make even our *enemies* to be at peace with us. O purge the camp

every *careful thing* which enfeebleth their strength, and defeats their attempts, that they not stand before their enemies. And turn them from all the provocations which weaken *hopes* by receiving good by their *hands*. Cover thou their heads in the day of *battle*; and serve them in all the times and cases of *danger*. O let them be as the *jun* when he goeth forth in his strength; and return with safety, honour, victory, and all good and happy success. O hear the prayers and cries of thy servants, which stand in the *gap*, interceding in anguish of their souls for these poor sinful *nations*, which have so long abused the rich benefacements of thy mercy; that we may be redeemed and saved, and by the kind hand of omnipotent mercy plucked as a *brand* out of the fire, to *survive* our sins and our fears, and see the good of thy *chosen*, and rejoice in the goodness of thy *nation*, and glory with thy *inheritance*; for all the riches of thy grace and goodness to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

In Time of Infection.

) LORD God, the giver of our *health*, which is the blessing that sweetens all the other blessings of our *lives*: 'tis only of thy mercy that we have so much *health* continued, in the *disorderly* manner in which we have lived. And O how just were it with thee, mercifully to take away that health from us which we have so greatly abused to a forgetfulness of thee

thee, and *wantomeſs* againſt thee; how ju mighteſt thou ſmighr us with the moſt ſharp noiſome *difeaſes*, which our nature moſt abireth: to hurry us out of the land of the liv and put a ſorrowful *end* to our wretched d Our fleſh trembles for fear of thee, and we afraid of thy *judgments*, leſt thou ſhouldeſt ſt into us the *arrows* of the Almighty, for poiſon thereof to drink up our ſpirits; thou ſhouldeſt give unto *Death* a command come in at our doors and windows, and m *havock* among us, and ſweep us away with *beſom* of deſtruction. But O thou hope of *Iſ* the Saviour thereof in time of *trouble*! reg not our ill *deſerts*; but remember thy own der *mercies*, and gracious *promiſes*; and take on us, and turn away this *plague* from us. a ſtop to the raging *infection*, and ſay to deſtroying *angel*, it is enough. That we r not be ſo afraid for the *terror* by night, nor the *arrow* that flies by day; nor for the *peſtil* that walketh in darkneſs; nor for the *deſtru* that waſteth at noon-day: but with *eaſe* in minds, and *gladneſs* in our hearts, may ſt thee faithfully and cheerfully all our days: devote our *ſpared* lives, which we have beg at thy hands, and our *health* and every me to be laid out and uſed to thy *honour* and *gl* through the ſtrength and the righteouſneſ thy dear Son our moſt compaſſionate and j vailing Mediator, Jeſus Chriſt. Amen.

In Time of Famine.

O LORD most High, the Creator of every comfort ! thou hast long dealt out thy comfortable *blessings* with a plentiful hand to us ; and we have freely enjoyed all the *abundance* of thy good things heaped upon us. But when thou hast fed us to the *full* , how have we *kicked* against our blessed Creator, and most bountiful Provider : and consumed the provisions for our *bodies* , to feed the lusts that war against our *souls* ; and to strengthen and embolden us in our *rebellion* against the Majesty of heaven ! most righteous therefore, we confess, would be thy judgments, holy God, if thou shouldst stretch out upon us the line of *confusion* , and the stones of *emptiness* , and break the *staff* of our bread ; and curse us in all our *store* , and in all the endeavours of our hands, to help ourselves.

But, O thou blessed Father of mercies ! in mercy *avert* from us the hunger, and thirst, and nakedness, and want of all things, which is the due desert of our sins, and of our wicked *abuses* of thy creature-comforts ; that the *husbandman* may not be ashamed, sowing much and gathering little : and that the *land* may not *mourn* , and all the inhabitants, with the beasts of the field, and the fowls of heaven. Humble us, O Lord, for all our sins ; and turn us from that *wickedness* which turns our land into *barrenness* : and then again be pleased to

command a blessing upon the *blasted comforts*, and abundantly bless our *provision*, and satisfy our poor with *bread* ; and give us *fruitful seasons*, filling our hearts with food and gladness : that, we may see thy *band*, and sing, and praise thy power, and admire, and adore thy mercy and bounty : and in the strength and refreshment of our comforts restored, joyfully devote ourselves to thy holy service all the days of our lives. *Amen.*

Devote Application to the Lord in Time of great Thunder, or some terrible Tempest.

O LORD God, most High and Almighty ! who lookest upon the *earth*, and it *trembles* ; and touchest the *mountains* and they *smoke*. How *wonderful* art thou, and *terrible* in thy works and doings ! to make us *fear and tremble before thee* ; who hast all the creatures at thy *beck*, to employ them (when thou wilt) as the *executioners* of thy wrath : and even the devouring *fire*, and stormy *winds*, so *cutragous* in themselves, yet do *fulfil thy word*. In these astonishing *flames*, the roaring *noises*, and dreadful *commotions*, thou shewest the *power* of thy hand, which no creature is able to *resist*. When the God of *glory thunders*, and cause his voice in an amazing manner to be *heard from heaven*, thou makest us to know the *terrors of the Lord* ; and how *fearful a thing it is to fall into the hands of the living God*. The dangers that startle, and come so nigh us thou mightest make them

the messengers of thy heavy *judgments* upon us. And we must own it, Lord, to be only of thy *mercies that we are not consumed, because thy compassions fail not.* O let these thy compassions now be extended to us, and shewed upon us. And in tender *mercy* cause the threatening *destruction* to pass over us.

Great God ! there is no *abiding* of thy wrath : though we *deserve* it, we are not able to *stand* before it ; but fall down, and humble and submit ourselves to thy omnipotent glorious *Majesty* ; beseeching thee to *spare* us, and to save us from the mischief and ruin which thou mightest justly *commission* and *empower* to destroy us. And from the peril and hurt of *lightning* and *tempest*, and *sweeping judgments* and *sudden death*, good Lord deliver us.

O despise not the prayers of thy poor *creatures*, crying to thee in our *distress* and *extremity* : But now and evermore vouchsafe to bear, O Christ ; *graciously bear us, O Christ : graciously bear us, O Lord Christ*, and let us find mercy from thee now, and in that great day of the Lord, wherein *the heavens, being on fire, shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat ; and the earth, with all its works, be burnt up.* O if these sights and noises, and shakings be so *terrible* to us now ! how unspeakably *astonishing* will it be, when the whole mighty frame of nature shall crack and sink, and tumble down ! O Lord of all mercy, save us now from our *sin*s, that would then utterly consume us with *terrors*. For they are not *sin*s that

make us *afraid* : and fearfulness *surprise*, because we have been false in thy covenant and rebellious against thy word, and provoke the Lord our God to be angry with us ; forgive us all the *guilt* and *transgression* we do fill us with fearful expectation of thy wrath and fiery *indignation*. And let the all-sufficient merits of our Lord Redeemer's bloody passion (that passion) which made the earth to quake and the rocks to rent, atone for every *iniquity*, whereby we have offended the holy justice of heaven.

And O that we may not only be *stunned* and struck down for the present : when thou so *dreadfully* discover thyself to us, and lay thy rod over us ; but of thy mercy, O Lord, wake us out of all carnal *security* and *barrenness* of heart, and *forgetfulness* of our God, with a *consuming fire*. As the thunder-storm, *frightful*, use to be *fruitful* ; so may the effect of thy judgments produce some good *fruit* in thy spirit in us. Blessed God, let thy teaching *soften* our hearts, and leave such deep and lasting impressions on our minds, that we may not *disregard* the works of the Lord, nor the *operation* of his hands ; but with all *awe* and reverence adore the supreme eternal Ruler of all the world ; and in thy holy fear keep us from every evil *provoking* thing ; and carry ourselves towards the Lord our God, in a *humbly* *godly* *circumspect* manner, as long as we have *day to live* ; even from this time forth for ever. Amen.

In Time of any fore and grievous Calamity.

O MOST High and dreadful God, the supreme Commander of the whole world ! holy and reverend is thy name ; just and terrible are thy judgments : yet O how *unsearchable* ! and thy ways past our finding out ! thy path in the great *deep* ; and thy footsteps are not known. Clouds and *darkness* are round about thee, yet righteousness and judgment still are the habitation of thy *throne* ; and thou canst never do *injury* to any ; but art *righteous* in all thy ways, and *holy* in all thy works. Who could not stand in everlasting *awe* of thy heavenly, glorious Majesty, O Lord, in whose hands we all of us are, to be used as thou *wilt* ! who canst touch and consume us by thy own *immediate* stroke, or arm any of thy creatures in heaven or in earth against us : or make the least of them the *executioners* of thy just indignation ; or turn the very things wherein we have *offended*, into the instruments of our *punishment* ; yea, and *plague* us even in our *comforts* ; making the choicest *blessings* of our lives become the saddest of our *crosses*, and the keenest of our *torments* ; either to take away *life* from us, or make it less desirable than *death* to us.

We fall down and kneel before the Lord our Maker in humble submission to thy correction, acknowledging the heavy *desert* of our sins, and the perfect *justice* of thy judgments. Humble

us, O good Lord, under thy hand ; and forgive us the heinous guilt that provokes thee so to stretch it out against us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us, and turn us from our sins, and deliver us from evil and turn away thy *wrath*, and all such *plagues* from us. O let thy boundless compassion cover the multitude of our transgressions ! and remember thy poor miserable creatures in mercy ; even such mercy as may relieve and help us in our need and distress ; and save and free us from our fears and dangers, and from our griefs and pressures ; that we may comfortably spend our days, and glorify thy holy name for evermore. *Amen.*

Under any great Difficulties and arduous Affairs.

O LORD, thou art a God of knowledge, whose understanding is infinite ; and thou art never at a *loss* to effect what we would have : though the Lord knows the thoughts of man, that they are vanity : and our wisdom is often at a stand, that we know not what to do for ourselves ; and at this *time*, our affairs are so entangled and such a *labyrinth* now involve us, that we are perplexed in our *counsels*, and even the heads of the wise are puzzled, in contriving how to *extricate* and help us out. There are many *devices* in a man's heart, but the *counsel* of the Lord, that shall stand. Yea, man's *goings* are of the Lord : how can man then understand his own way ? His heart may ad-
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wise his way, but the Lord directs his steps. If we lean not to our own understandings, but in all our ways acknowledge thee, O Lord ; thou hast promised to *direct* our paths : and when we commit our way to thee, and trust in thee, we have thy word, that thou wilt bring it to pass. But thou hast pronounced woe to them that take *counsel*, but not of thee : that cover with a covering, but not of thy *spirit*, and have not asked at thy *mouth*.

Our eyes therefore are upon our God : and to thee we *seek* now for wisdom from *above* : that we may learn to know the *right*, and to chuse the *best*. For without thee, O Lord, our wisdom is *folly*, and our debates are *madness*. O be thou graciously present in our *councils*, and teach thou our Senators wisdom, that they may find out the true *expedients*, to heal our *breaches*, and redress our *grievances* ; and to keep us safe, and do us good, and make us holy and happy. O may we all be taught of God which way to take, and how to determine and act, *consonant* and agreeable to thy blessed will, and for our own peace and welfare, both here and for ever. *Amen*.

A Prayer for Temporal Blessings.

O LORD our God, thou knowest that while we are in this life, we stand in need of its supplies : and hath both promised to such as seek thy *kingdom*, and the righteousness thereof, the addition of all other *necessaries* ; and also hast commanded us to ask

of thee our *daily bread*, and to cast our *care* upon thee for all that is fitting for us. I pray therefore to thee, my heavenly Father, for such a *child's portion* as thy wisdom sees to be convenient, and agreeable to my condition. O give me such health and wealth, and so much of the world's good, as shall be for my *good*. And while I have a life to be nourished, let me not want the *supports* and comforts of it. Give me skill and ability to provide for myself : and still add thy *blessing* to my endeavours. Where I cannot supply all my own *necessities*, O do thou raise up friends and *means* to help me, that I may never be destitute of what is *sufficient* to sustain me : and be it ever so poor and mean, yet let me acquiesce in the *distributions* of thy good providence ; and having *food* and *raiment*, be therewith content. In *prosperity*, keep me from *forgetting* thee : and in adversity, keep me from concluding myself to be *forgotten* of thee : O keep me from all unnecessary *cares*, and unprofitable *dejections* ; and teach me how to *want*, as well as how to *abound*. Add to me, O my Father, what thou knowest me further to need ; and bless to me what already I have. That the bodily comforts may not be to my foul *occasions* of falling, but encouragements to my duty, and *engagements* on my heart, to abound in thy love and praise, and in the work of the Lord. And in the want of all other supplies and succours, be thou, O God, my *all* in *all* in life and death, and evermore. *Amen.*

For Rain.

WE confess, O Lord, that we have so greatly abused the *comforts* of thy good creatures, that thou mightest justly withdraw them from us, and make the heavens over us as *brass*, and the rain of our *land dust*; and the land itself to *mourn*, and all that grows upon it to *wither*. But O thou Father of mercies, who in judgment rememberest *mercy*, consult not now our *merits*, but thy own *mercies*, how to use us. Thou that hast the *bottles*, and *treasures* of heaven at thy command, be pleased now to open the *windows* of heaven, and cause the *rain* to come down in its season; making *grass* to grow for the *cattle*, and herbs and fruits of the earth for the service of *men*. And however thou art pleased to deal with us, O suppress all our *repinings* at any of thy *dealings*: and let them all amend and better us; and make us people *prepared* to receive the *mercies* which we want, and wait and beg for, at thy gracious hands, upon the account of Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Fair Weather.

LORD, if thou shouldest turn a fruitful land into *barrenness*, for the wickedness of them that dwell therein; yet righteous wert thou, and just would be thy *judgments*: and we must not open our mouths to reply against God; but bear the *indignation* of the Lord which

our sins have ſo much deſerved ; when our *iniquities* have turned away the *bleſſings*, and withholden the good things from us. But, O Father of mercies, ſpare us, and forgive us, for thy own mercy's ſake : and put a ſtop to the *calamity* that threatens *deſtruction* to the work of thy hands ; that the *rain*, which is thy *bleſſing* may not be turned into a curſe ; nor deſcend from heaven to corrupt and ſpoil the *fruits* of the earth. O cauſe the overflowing *ſhowers* to ceaſe, which damp the joy of the harveſt, and endanger the *blaſting* of our bleſſings. And as thou haſt given us plenty, and cauſed our land to yield its increaſe, ſo give us (we pray thee) a *ſeaſonable* time to gather in the fruits which thy bounty has provided for us ; that in the uſe of them, we may joyfully and cheerfully ſerve thee ; and not conſume them upon our *luſts*, but live to thy *glory*, as we do upon thy *bounty*. And when thy judgments are in the land, O that we who inhabit it, may learn righteouſneſs ! nor let our concerns be ſo great for our *bodies* as for our *ſouls* : that however we fare here, it may go well with us for ever. O let us not labour ſo for the meat that *perisheth* as for that which endures to *ever-laſting life* : which ever-laſting provision for our unchangeable condition, above all we beg at thy hands, O Lord God our heavenly Father, for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt our only Saviour. Amen.

Prayer and praise for a public Thanksgiving-Day.

BLESSED Lord, the only living and true God, who art of thyself, and givest being and preservation to us, and to all things else that are in the world ! we live by thee ; our whole dependence is upon thee, for all the good that ever we *have* or *hope* for. And above all thy mercies, have we cause to admire and bless, and praise thee our God, for those mercies, which in so large a *measure*, and especial *manner*, thou hast been pleased still to vouchsafe unto us, who are the work of thy *hands*, and the purchase of the blood of thy Son : whom thou hast *made* and redeemed, to shew forth thy praise and to glorify thy name. And we desire to pay unto thee that *tribute* of homage and service, and prayer, and praise, which thou hast made us *capable* of, and so many ways *obliged* us to : we desire to perform the same in such a manner, that thou mayest mercifully accept us, and our services, at the hands of Jesus Christ.

Worthy art thou, O Lord our God, to receive all honour and glory, all thanks and praise, and love and obedience ; as in the courts of heaven, so in all the assemblies of thy servants here upon *earth* : for thou art great, and dost wondrous things : thou art God alone ; and thy *goodness* is equal to thy *greatness*. Thy *mercy* is over all thy works, and endureth for ever. Thou, Lord, hast been favourable to thy land,

and dealt exceeding graciously with us : for which we desire to bless thy name, and to give thee all the glory. For 'tis of the Lord's *mercies* we are not *consumed*, because thy compassions fail not : and that we are here *alive* to praise thee, and in any condition to *keep a thanksgiving-day*. That we are not now *nothing*, or *worse* than nothing, we must acknowledge it to be of thy free grace, O Lord, and thy mere mercy. That all the evils which have *threatened* us, have not befallen us ; and that those evils which have come upon us, have not utterly destroyed and *undone* us : it is because thou Lord, art gracious and merciful, and patient and kind, and still doing *good* to poor sinful men, who deserve nothing but *evil* at thy hands.

O how much have we to say of the goodness of the Lord by our own *experience*, and thy help at hand still in all the times and cases of our need ! how sweet and wonderful is it to recount all the instances of thy *patience* with us, and thy *bounty* to us ! how from time to time thou hast *signalized* us with thy mercy, and made us *remarkable* for thy blessings and favours, most kind and precious, of many sorts ! thou hast cast our lot in a land of *light*, where we live under the influences of thy *gospel* ; and thereby are called to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. And for all the happy *advantages* and good things of this *life*, which thou hast given us plenteously to enjoy, thou hast made us *the envy* of our neighbours, and the particular
object

objects of thy kindness. Though many times we have provoked thee to stretch forth thy *band*, and to shake the *rod* over us, and threaten to *destroy* us, yet in judgment still thou hast remembered *mercy* towards us ; and after the *clouds* and *darkness* gathered about us, the dread and distress were on every side of us, thou hast caused the heavens again to clear up, and smile upon us ; and returned with the *visitations* of thy love, and the joy of thy salvation.

In the late dangers, thou hast been to us a *tower* of defence ; and in the time of our *need* and perplexity, thou hast shewed thyself graciously and powerful on our behalf. Thou hast helped us for the *glory* of thy name, and redeemed us for thy *mercy's* sake : not because we were *worthy*, but because thou hast a *favour* unto us ! and therefore to thy name alone be all the *praise*. O what shall we render to the Lord for all his benefits ! what can we give to thee our God, but the *glory* of thy own gifts and goodness unto us ! O let not our hearts be *shut* and streightened towards thee, whose hand has been so wide open unto us. But do thou possess and enlarge these *hearts* of ours, with more and greater *love* and *thankfulness* to the gracious Giver of all our good things. And make us more *sensible* of thy goodness and love bestowed upon us, that we may give thee thanks from the *ground* of the heart, and have our mouths filled as with *marrow* and *fatness*, when we praise our God with joyful lips.

O make us a truly *thankful*, as we are a greatly obliged

obliged people. And let us not only mention the loving-kindness of the Lord, but glory thy name in bearing much *fruit* ; more answerable to such *mercy* and encouragement as we have received from above. We can never enough admire and magnify the *riches* of thy grace, and the *multitude* of thy mercies : But O good Lord, enable us still more to *love* thee, and better to *serve* thee ; and in so doing for us, thou wilt still further *oblige* us : because in loving and serving thee, we do best love and serve our own happiest *interests*. As our minds cannot but muse, and our tongues speak of thy *works* ; so let our lives be led to thy *praise*, that thou the great and good God, mayest in all things be glorified by us, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Thanksgivings for Temporal Blessings.

GRACIOUS God, the bountiful Provider for all the world's *family* ! the eyes of all wait upon thee ; and thou givest them their *meat* in due *season*. Thou openest thy hand, and satisfiest the desire of every *living* thing. Every year thou *newest* the face, and the fruits of the *earth*, and givest rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons ; to fill the hungry with *good* things, and to fill all our *hearts* with food and gladness. O how many of thy *creatures* have bestowed their labours, and lost their lives, and been consumed to cloath and feed, and *sustain and pleasure* us ! O at what vast expence

art thou continually to maintain the whole *world* of creatures, that every where hang upon thee, for life and breath, and all things ! Yet thou art not *weary* to do us good : but still showest down *blessings* plentifully upon us ; to provide, not only *necessaries*, to keep us alive ; but also *variety* of comforts, to make our lives sweet and desirable. Yea, thou *delightest* in mercy, and hast pleasure in the prosperity of thy servants ; and makest us now to find, by our happy *experience*, how abundantly good and kind thou art.

For Rain.

O Lord, thou hast sent a gracious *rain* upon
 thy inheritance, to refresh the dry and thirsty
land, and cause it to yield its *increase* : giving
 us the joyful opportunity to serve and praise
 thee, in the *abundance* of the provisions which
 thou art pleased so to make for us. O that
 men would praise thee for thy *goodness*, and for
 such thy *wonderful works* to the *children of men* !
 O good God, to thy *name* only be all the glory,
 now and eternally.

For Fair Weather.

Lord, thou hast in mercy shut the *windows*
of heaven, and put a stop to the *overflowing*
showers that threatened to drown the fruits of
the earth : and hast caused this sweet and com-
fortable change to refresh thy unworthy ser-
vants, and to make all the creatures rejoice in thy
goodness

goodness. Blessed be our God, that deals so graciously with us : and glory be to thy name, thou great Withholder of all the *evils*, and Giver of all good. Let the people praise thee, O God, let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her *increase* ; and God, even our own God, shall *bless* us.

For the Cessation of Infection.

O thou great Preserver of men ! thou hast delivered our souls from the hand of the *grave*, and kept us *alive*, that we should not go down to the *pit* ; the jaws of *death* were open upon us and we went with our lives in our hands : our hearts failing us for fear of the destruction raging amongst us, when the very *air*, which we drew in to give us life, was to so many the sad *messenger* of death ; and when *thousands* fell on every side of us, it has not come *nigh* us. But we have dwelt in the *secret* places of the Most High, and (under the *shadow* of the Almighty) have been kept in safety. O what shall we say, what shall we give unto thee, our present Help and only Saviour, in time of *trouble* ! we are every way *thine*, O Lord ; and to thee only be all the *glory*. We *bless* thee, our God, as those that are made alive from the *dead*. And O that the lives which have been given us at our requests, we may return them back to be spent in thy service ! that we may *love* and please, and praise our God, while we *have* our being.

For the Restoration of Plenty.

O God, the Fountain of all goodness ! thou didst threaten with *famine* to destroy the blessings of the earth, which we have so wickedly *abused* : but remembering thy own tender mercies, and not our ill deserts, hast raised a new and plentiful *supply* for us. And now thou *crownest* the year with thy *goodness*, and thy paths drop *fatness*. Thou hast *loaded* the earth with the fruits of thy bounty, and sent *abundance* of all good things for the service and comfort of *man*. O make us more *sensible* of the obligation which thy *love* has laid upon us. And as thou fillest us with thy *good things*, so fill our hearts with thy love and grace to use every gift aright to thy glory : that in the use and strength of what we are continually *receiving* from thee, we may devote ourselves to *live* unto thee, and to serve thee with gladness and rejoicing for all thy rich mercy to us in Jesus Christ.

For Victory over our Enemies.

O Almighty Lord, the most High God, who rulest in the *kingdoms* of men, and dost whatsoever thou pleasest in heaven and in earth ! in thy hand is power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee. It is thou that givest salvation unto *kings*, that deliverest thy servants from the hurtful *sword*. Thou hast saved us from our *enemies*, and put them to *shame* that *hated us*. It was not by our own power or conduct

that we have been so prosperous ; nor did our own sword or arm save us : but thy right hand and thy arm, and the light of thy countenance because thou hadst a *favour* unto us. This O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the *victory*. The Lord is our strength, and our song, and is become our *Salvation*. Now, therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious *name*. And what cause hast thou given us to rejoice in thy goodness, that thou hast not given our enemies cause to rejoice in our *ruin* ! Great is thy mercy O blessed Lord, and to thee alone be the whole praise and *glory*. O make us more sensible of this thy help at hand, in time of our *need* : and give us grace still to keep the *memory* of it in our grateful minds. O thou great Lord of Hosts, who givest such safety and good *success* wilt thou teach us also rightly to use thy strength and marvellous kindness and love ; that being delivered from the hands of our *enemies*, we may serve thee, in *holiness* and *righteousness* before thee, all the days of our lives ; and not fly out into licentious carriage, as if we were delivered to commit *abominations* ; (so throw ourselves into the hands of our *spiritual* foes after we have escaped the other) but demeaning ourselves as the *Redeemer* and obliged to the Lord. O let us love and trust, and bless and praise the *Reliever* of our misery, the only Giver of all victory, and the God of all our *mercies*, for ever and ever.

For Peace.

O God of Peace, that makest wars to *cease* to the ends of the earth : that brakest the *bow*, and cuttest the *spear* asunder, and burnest the *chariot* in the *fire* ! thou hast in mercy put a stop to the *effusion* of blood, and made *peace* in our borders ; thou hast rebuked strong *nations*, to make them beat their *swords* into *ploughshares*, and their *spears* into *pruning hooks*, that nation may not rise against nation : but every man sit under his *vine*, and under his *fig-tree*, and none make them afraid. O how sweet is thy mercy, and reviving, as *life* from the *dead* ! and thou, O Lord, that hast given us *peace*, O give us also *grace*, to use it to thy glory, and to serve thee still the more freely and cheerfully. That we may not only have peace with men, but also with our God : even the peace of God that passeth all understanding, to keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

O that we may be *sensible* of the kindness and love of God our Saviour, as we ought, and ever give thee thanks with all our *souls* ! dear Father of *mercies* ! rather take all our *good* things from us, than leave us speechless and heartless to thy *praise*. O that our hearts may be *enlarged* in thy love, and lifted up in the celebration of thy praises ? To thy *name*. O Lord, be the glory of all thy mercy and bounty. And may all thy *works* and all thy *servants* bless thee, and praise thee, and magnify thee *for ever*. And may we have grace to

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express the thankfulness of our *hearts*, in whole *conduct* of our lives : devoting ourself to be thine in faithfulness, as long as we in being. *Amen, Amen.*

Thanksgiving after a safe and good Journey

ALL thanks and praise that I am able to render, is a *debt* that I owe unto thee O Lord my God : and I desire with all my heart to pay it ; for that goodness of thine, which I have experienced all along now in my *journey* where thou hast not only been nigh to me, ; watchful over me, to secure me from *peril* the way, and from every *sad accident*, that might have befallen me, but hast given me *success* and surrounded me with *blessings* and *comfort* on every side. When at every turn, and every step, I was exposed to the *evils* that might have *hurt* or spoiled me : and I might now have been groaning under *broken bones*, or *bruised limbs*, or other *harms* : yea, might have been cut off and *perished in the way* ; and lost not only *health* and *strength*, but *life* itself : thou Lord, hast in mercy, preserved and kept me in *safety*, and brought me to see my *habitat* in *peace*, and all things here, even according to my *heart's desire*.

A horse is a vain thing for safety ; and nothing upon earth can we confide in to defend us. But the blessed Keeper of Israel do not cover us under the shadow of his wings ; and give his assistance and charge over us, to keep us in all our ways.

such *invisible guards* I have had ; and such *favour* from the Lord of Love I have found. Mercy and goodness of the Lord that has followed me all the days of my *life*, has been renewed afresh, and further manifested to me in these my *travels*. And O how *inexhaustible* is the kindness and bounty of my Lord, never *weary* to do me good ! to thee O God of my *life*, and *safety*, and *comfort*, be all the *glory*. O fill me with a most *grateful* sense of such thy rich grace and continual *mercy* ; and give me a heart abounding with *thankfulness*, and with thy *love* and *raises* ; yea, give me also *grace* to *express* the unfeigned thanks of my *heart*, in all the ways *leading* to thy holy *will* ; through the beloved of my soul, my blessed Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving for Preservation and Deliverance from Dangers and Troubles.

MANY, O Lord my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done ; and thy thoughts which are to us-ward, for *good*, they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee : If I should declare and speak of them, they are more than can be *numbered*. According to thy *name* so is thy *praise*, to the ends of the earth. The *dead* praise thee not, nor any that go down to silence : the *living*, the *living*, they shall praise thee, as I desire with all my *soul* to do this day. My heart is fixed : God, my heart is fixed : I will sing and give *praise*. I will be

glad and rejoice in thee, and sing *praise* to thy name, O thou Most High. I will praise thee, O Lord, for thou hast heard me, and art become my Salvation. I found trouble and *sorrow*, then I called upon thee ; and thou wast attentive to my *cry*, and nigh to my *help*. And though thou mightest have made an *example* of thy judgments to others, as others have been made so to me, thou didst not consult my *deserts* but my *distress* ; doing great things, and working strange *deliverance* for me, not because I was *worthy*, but because thou aboudest in *mercy*.

I was in woeful *perplexity* : fear was on every side : all my hope was ready to *expire* ; and I thought there was no help for me, but I must sink and *perish*. Then didst thou, O Lord, *interpose* between me and the threatening mischief ; and reveal thy glorious *arm*, to pluck me out of the very jaws of destruction : and set me at liberty from any amazing *fears*, and in safety from the dreadful *dangers* : and hast kept me *alive*, and restored my *comforts* : not taken me away in the midst of my days, nor cutting off *untimely*, from the land of the *living* ; but sparing me in mercy, and giving me (as it were) a *new life* from the dead. Thou hast *chastened* me, but not given me over to *death*. When my foot slipped, thy mercy, O Lord, held me up. Thou art the God that *dost* *wonders* ; wonders of *power*, and wonders of *mercy*. As nothing is too hard for thee to *effect*, so nothing is too good for thee to *bestow*. Yea, thy *kindness* and thy help at hand, in the woeful time

of *need*, is so *sweet* and *surprising*, that nothing can so *affect* and *transport* our souls.

Thou, Lord, hast made me *glad* through thy work : I will *triumph* in the works of thy hands. I will sing of thy *power* : Yea, I will sing aloud of thy *mercy*. For thou hast been my *defence* and my *refuge* in the day of my *trouble*. Unto thee, O my *strength*, will I sing, for God is my *defence*, and the God of my *mercy*. O Lord God, merciful and gracious ! I am now sensible of such *mercy* from thee. I will *extol* thee, who hath *exalted* me : and not suffered the trouble and danger to overwhelm and ruin me. In my *distress* I cried to thee, and thou hast enlarged me. O blessed be God, who hast not cast away my prayer, nor his *mercy* from me. But dearest Lord ! thou hast kept me in *safety*, and caused the *destruction* so to pass over me, that I suffered but in my own *fears*, of what I have so little *felt*. I cannot, without *amazement*, look back upon the *perilous* case that I was in, and the *brink* of ruin that I lay upon. And that I should *escape*, as I have done, O how *marvellous* is it in my eyes ! And O what cause have I for thy *praise*, that I am here alive to praise thee ! O my God, it is thy *good hand* that hast wrought so wonderfully for me, and thy *fatherly kindness* that has shewn such extraordinary favour to me : O ! if I had been snatched away *unprepared*, how dreadful a *change* should I have found ! But in mercy, and love to my soul (I give thee glory) thou hast made a way for my *escape* : and I am preserved

the living monument of thy unspeakable goodness.

O what shall I say unto thee, whose name is exalted far above all *bleffing* and *praise* ! and what shall I do for thee, to whom my *goodness* will not extend ! I can never answer the *obligation* which thy love, dear Lord, has laid upon me : but let me admire and love, and blefs and praise thee, with all the *capacities* and *abilities* which thou hast given me. And O that thou wouldst *imprint* so deep upon my heart the *sense* of such seasonable relief, and wonderful mercy ; that I may never *forget*, never *slight* or *abuse* the great goodness that thou hast shewed me, and the *signal* preservation, and recovery, which thou hast wrought for me : but ever give thee thanks with all my *heart* ; and carry as one that is so highly *obliged*, all the days of my *life* : not secure and careless, because I have so escaped ; but the more watchful and diligent, the more I have been engaged and *favoured* : approving my thankfulness in such a *manner*, as thou mayest graciously accept in my blessed Saviour Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving and Prayer after Recovery out of a dangerous Sickness.

O GOD of my life ! in whose hand my breath is, and by whom all men do live, and have their days here *prolonged* or *shortened*, I was brought low, and ready to think that thou wouldst now determine, and make an end

of my days upon earth ; and counted myself so nigh unto death, that I expected every day, when that *last enemy* which lay in *wait* for me, would come and *seize* upon me.

But thou, Lord, hast graciously disappointed my *fears*, and rescued me from his hands ; and raised me up to walk again before thee in the land of the *living*. Though thou broughtest me even to the mouth of the grave, yet hast thou brought me *back*, that the *pit* of corruption should not *swallow* me up. And thou that givest me life at *first*, hast now given it to me *afresh*. And to thee, my God, I desire therefore, with all my soul, to give all the *praise*. O blessed be my great *Preserver*, the dear and only Saviour of my body, as well as *soul* ; the God of my *health*, my heavenly *Physician*, my *life*, and the length of my *days*. O that I may live to declare the works of the Lord, and set forth the *honour* of his name ! that I may not look upon my *extended* life, as an occasion to the flesh ; to enjoy my *liberty* and *pleasure* upon earth : but as an *engagement* on my heart, to abound in gratitude, and love, and praise, and all faithful duty, and cheerful obedience to my *gracious* God.

For in mercy to my *soul*, the Lord has given me a further *allowance* of time in the world, to fill up what was wanting in my spiritual estate, and to make a better *preparation* for the heavenly kingdom. And upon this account alone it is that our life is so *valuable*, and our time so *precious* here upon earth ; that we may have
space

space to repent! and the opportunity to *correct* the errors of our past life, and to secure the greatest of all our *effects*; to serve our Lord to more well-pleasing; and to dress up ourselves into a greater *fitness* to meet the eternal glorious Bridegroom. O that the life now *renewed* to myself, may also be a *new life to the Lord*. That I may not only say, I thought I should have *died*; but may carry myself henceforth as one restored even from the *dead*: and live with such *dying thoughts*, that when at last I come to die, I may go off with *lively hopes*.

For it is no total *escape*, but only a *reprieve*, that is now granted to me; and my death is a *debt* to nature, that must be paid; nor is there any avoiding it; but the hands of *Death* (that have been *catching* at me) will yet certainly take *hold* of me; and I know not how soon I may be *down* again; and not only threatened, but enclosed by the *grave*; for that is my house, where, after all, I must take up, and go to rottenness and *dust*. And when I least think of it, O how suddenly may I be *cut off*, and take my last *leave* of this world!

O let me not live then as if I should never see *death*; nor put it far from me, as if it should never be upon me; nor reckon upon any sure *standing*, or long *abiding*, in such a changeable *transitory* world, that is but the house of our *pilgrimage*, and none of our home, nor the place of our *rest*. But when *dust I am*, and to *dust I must return*, O help me, Lord, so to remember and consider my death, that I may

A Prayer for Blessing, &c. 141

be better for it, in all the course and *conduct* of my life ! with such wise and holy *circumspection* carrying myself and ordering all my conversation in the world ; that when I must *close* my eyes upon this present *scene* of things, I may art hence full of peace, and hope to enjoy better and more *durable* goods, than any are to be found. And for my *recovery*, and *health* as I enjoy at present, O let me pay *vows* to the Lord : and from the ground of the heart, ascribe to the God of my *salvation* all glory, thanks, and love, and service, throughout the whole *remainder* of my life, and evermore. *Amen.*

Prayer for Blessing, Direction, Help, and good Success, in any great Enterprize.

O LORD God, infinitely wise, and good, who teacheth man *knowledge*, and givest him the *skill* and *power* to accomplish our purposes ; and also the *blessings* and *success* to bring us to pass according to our *wishes* ! I know what to do. But my eyes are upon *thee* ; all my expectation is from thee ; and still desire to wait, and call, and depend upon thee. A great work now I have to *do* : but how little *strength* to do it ! All my *sufficiency* is of thee, who workest in us to *will* and to *do*, by good pleasure. Thou that hast been my *help*, leave me not, nor forsake me, O God of *salvation* ; but let me be *taught* of God what *will* he to do ; and let the gracious Lord make

me to understand what is thy *pleasure* concerning me. O that my ways were directed please thee, that I may have the light of *countenance* shining upon me.

My Lord and my God, leave me not in hand of my own *counsel*, not to the conduct of my own foolishness and deceitful *heart*, lead me by the way that I shall go, and guide me continually, that *discretion* may preserve me, and *understanding* may keep me. O make my way *prosperous*, and give me thy blessing and good *success*. Bring all needful things to my remembrance ; and where I have not *presence* of mind nor power of performance, magnify thy *power* in my weakness ; and let me go forth in thy *name* and *strength*, and speedily prosper by thy *grace* and *blessing*. Let thy *good providence* be my defence and security, O thy Holy Spirit my Guide and Counsellor, that I may wisely *choose*, and rightly *manage*, and successfully *accomplish*, the things wherein I have engaged.

Thy *will* be done, O Lord, however I am pleased or crossed ; and let me ever design thy *glory*, whether it make for my gain or loss, or any respect in this present life. O be thou a gracious Father to me, and a merciful Provider for me ; and grant me now the comfortable sense of thy good *acceptance* of me, and thy *designs* of mercy towards me. Be thou pleased to take me to thy Fatherly care, to *conduct* and preserve me from the *evils* in which I am prone to fall, and quicken me

A Prayer when going Abroad. 143

good which I am averse to perform. O
 lish thou the work of thy hands upon me !
 the work of my hands *establiſh* thou it.
 God and Guide, my Help and Strength ;
 ou *lead* me not, I ſhall run into *errors* ; if
keep me not, I ſhall fall into *dangers* : but
 thou me up, and I ſhall be *ſafe*. And
 ie experience thy power and preſence with
 and all the goodneſs of the Lord paſſing
 e me, that I may ſo go through this and
 ie affairs of my life, that, at my laſt refle-
 upon what is paſt, my ſoul may have *peace*,
 give thy name the praiſe, through Jeſus
 t. Amen.

A Prayer when going Abroad.

LORD, thou art the ſame God in all
 places : and no-where can I go but *thou*
here. Both at *home* and *abroad*, on my
 and at the *end*, thou art ever with me
 y *universal* preſence of thy *grace*, and thy
 Spirit with me, to conduct and guide me
 nually ; to protect and ſave me from all
 ers and miſchiefs ; and to make my way
 ous, and all my affairs *ſucceſſful*. O let
bleſſing of the Lord follow me, and reſt
 me ; and *preſerve my going out, and my*
g in ; and *never leave me nor forſake me*, O
 ; but be my God and Guide this day, in
 is *journey*, and all my *life* long ; which is
 a *pilgrimage* and *paſſage* through this world,
 hich I am continually haſtening home, to
 eriod of all my *travels*, to the place where
 ſt take up and dwell for ever.

O good God, make me continually mindful of that *progress*, and of that *journey's end*; and keep me from sinful *wanderings*, and thou worst of all *falls*, to fall from my God. Take care of me, I beseech thee, and lead me, and keep me, and help me: and after all my *motions* here, O bring me *safe* at last to thy *holy hill* and to thy *heavenly rest*, to the blessed end of my *faith*, the everlasting *salvation* of my soul through the greatness of thy mercy to me, in thy dear Son, my gracious Lord, and only Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Illumination and Knowledge.

O LORD, the eternal uncreated Light; Thou hast not left thyself without *witness* amongst us, but in thy word and works before us, in our souls and consciences within us, and in all thy creatures on every side us, we may see the *tracks* of thy presence, thy power, wisdom, and goodness. That I have therefore no more and better knowledge of God, and the things belonging to my peace, it is my *shame*, and owing to my sinful dulness and negligence, in that which does most nearly and eternally concern me. Ah Lord, I have not *improved* in knowledge answerable to the *light* which thou hast caused to shine upon me, nor according to the *means* of *instruction* wherewith thou hast blessed me: but I have need to be *taught myself* the things whereof I might have been a *teacher* of others; for which I desire, Lord, to
humbly

humble myself, and to beg thy pardon, and come now to ask wisdom of God, who givest to all men liberally, and upbraidest not.

I cannot see or know thee, O Lord, but by the *beams* of thy own *light*, which thou art pleased to impart. O wilt thou vouchsafe yet further and more fully to *discover* and *manifest* thyself to my soul ! and teach me to *know aright* thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent ! O blessed Son of Righteousness, arise upon me with healing in thy wings, to scatter all the *clouds* of folly and ignorance, and error, and prejudice, that overspread my soul. Open my eyes that I may behold *wondrous* things out of thy *law* ; and open my *understanding* that I may understand the *scriptures*, and not remain in *darkness* concerning any thing that is needful for me to *know*, in order to my present peace and duty, and to my eternal *bliss* and felicity. And whereinfoever I, or any whom I am concerned with or for, are otherwise *minded* than we ought to be, O God *reveal* the same to us ; and let us all be taught of *thee* to know thee, from the greatest to the least ! and not be *unwise*, but *understanding* what the will of the Lord is.

That the soul be without *knowledge* is not good : O incline our ears to *wisdom*, and our *hearts* to *understanding* ; that we may follow on to *know the* Lord, and *increase* in the knowledge of God. Shew us thy ways, O Lord, and lead us in thy truth. And whatever else we are

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ignorant of, unto us let it be given to know the *mysteries* of the kingdom of God ; and to know what we are to *believe*, and how we are to conceive of thy blessed Self, and all the things of God that concern us. O Lord, our light ! give us understanding in the way of *godliness* ; a spiritual *discerning* of the things of thy *spirit* ; and make us wise to *salvation*. Give us the spirit of *wisdom* and revelation, in the knowledge of Thee · the eyes of our understanding being *enlightened*, that we may see what is the *hope* of thy calling, and what the riches of the glory of thy *inheritance* in thy saints, and what the mighty *power* of thy spirit, which works in them that do *believe*.

O put thy law in our *inward* parts, and write it in our *hearts*, that we may be well acquainted with thy *will* revealed in thy *word* ; that the Scripture may not be to us a book *sealed*, or a gospel *hid* ; but a *lamp* to our feet, and a *light* to our path ; to shew us what we have to do, and how to demean ourselves in all estates, affairs, and circumstances of our lives. O that our ways were directed to keep thy statutes ! And help us, O Lord, so to do thy *will*, that we may know the Scriptures to be of God, and may have the witness in *ourselves* ; and perceive the *divinity* of thy word, by the heavenly power and *efficacy* of it upon our lives. And though now we see but *darkly*, as in a glass, and know but in *part* ; and cannot but searching find out the Almighty to *perfection* yet *help* us still more and better to know our
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God, so as we can know ; till hereafter we shall know as we are *known*, and see *face to face*, in that blessed *presence* of thine, where is fulness of joy for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Repentance.

O MOST Holy Lord God, against whom I have greatly *finned*, and who for my sins art justly *displeased* ; thou hast revealed thy wrath from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, that *impenitently* go on in their trespasses ; and hast let us know, that as we all have sinned, so, except we *repent*, we shall all *perish*. Even the Saviour of sinners will not save any sinner without *repentance* ; nor dost thou *remit* what we do not *repent* ; though, upon our *repentance*, thou hast assured us of thy gracious pardon and acceptance : And when we *return unto thee*, and *humble* ourselves before thee, thou wilt shew us thy *compassion*, and grant us thy *salvation*. O gracious Lord ! great is thy mercy to vouchsafe unto us this *remedy* ; and to deal so favourably with us as to *forgive* and *receive* us, when we are but *sensible* of our miscarriages and *rebellions* ; and humbly *submit* ourselves, and *leave off* to do so foolishly and wickedly. Such humiliation and reformation is the best and most needful thing for me to do ; but O how averse and insufficient am I to do it ! thou Searcher of *hearts*, knowest my heart to be so *hardened*, through the deceitfulness of *sin*, that as soon may I fetch water out

of the *flint* as godly sorrow out of this *obdurate* heart, if thou the great God, do not *soften* : with thy holy fear, and *dissolve* and *overcome* : with thy powerful love : and that I can no more turn with all my heart to the Lord than I can turn the course of a *river* to run back to the *fountain*, unless thou draw me by thy grace, and give me *power* from on high, to enable me for the blessed work.

O thou that didst cause water to gush out of the stony *rock*, wilt thou break and melt my *rocky heart* into such *contrition* as work repentance unto *salvation* ? Yea, thou that fashioneest all the hearts of the sons of men take away from me the heart of *stone*, and give me a heart of *flesh*, broken and *contrite*, such as thou wilt not despise, that I may look upon him whom my sins have *pierced* and *mourn*, and be in bitterness for all the foul offence that I have committed against the Lord of Love, the God of all my *mercies*. O give me such true *repentance* for them, that thou mayest also give me full *pardon* of them. Give me good Lord, that *repentance* which thy holy word *requires*, and such as thy gracious goodness in Christ Jesus will mercifully *accept* ; even the *repentance* unto *life*, never to be *repented* of. O help me so to repent, and to be *converted*, that my sins may be *blotted* out, when the times of *refreshing* shall come from the presence of the Lord. Turn thou me, O Lord God of my *salvation*, and so shall I be turned, and *change my mind*, and amend my life, and bring
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forth *fruits* meet for repentance ; not only confessing and bewailing sins *committed* but also hating and forsaking sins *confessed* and *bewailed*, loathing as much as ever I have loved the things that displease thy holy will, and dishonour thy blessed name.

What I cannot *recall*, yet, Lord, give me grace to *repent*. And where I am (alas !) so far from *innocent*, Father of mercies, make me *penitent*. And touch my heart with such a powerful *sense* of all thy loving-kindness, as may *work* upon my *ingenuity* ; to break my heart for my sins, and *from* them : and make me sorrowfully concerned, that ever I should commit offences so *great* against the God so infinitely *good* : yea, make me so circumspect and full of care, to keep myself henceforth in thy *fear* and *love* ; that I may never be so *strange* to thee, as I have been ; nor *fall* away from thee, and *trespass* upon thee, as I have done. O my God ! let thy *goodness* lead me to such repentance. And help me so to *break* off my sins, and to *turn* and *cleave* unto thy blessed self, that thou mayest have mercy upon me, and *abundantly* pardon all my *abounding* sins, through the infinite riches of thy grace and goodness, in the Son of thy love, my only Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Faith and Trust in God.

WITHOUT *faith*, it is impossible to please thee, O God, and therefore I come to beg of thee that *faith* which is thy gift

gift. Lord, help my *unbelief*, and increase my *faith*. Whatever thou hast revealed, let me take it upon the *credit* of thy word ; and where I have thy *promise*, let me not stagger through *unbelief* ; but fully persuade myself, it shall be as thou hast said. O bless and enrich my soul with such a holy, lively, and unfeigned *faith* as may enlighten my *mind*, and purify my *heart*, and influence my whole *life* ; such a *faith* as may enable me to *receive* Jesus Christ for my Saviour, and heartily to *give* up myself to him for my Lord : so to be ruled and sanctified by him here in this *life*, that I may be for ever saved and glorified by him, in that life which is to *come*. O help me so to *assent* unto the truths, that I may also *consent* to the terms of the *gospel* : And work in me that *effectual* *faith*, which may work by *love*, and may enable me to overcome the *world* and to live above it ; looking at and for the great and glorious things of a *better* world ; those *unseen* things that are eternal.

In my greatest darkness and distress, O let me trust in the name of the Lord, and *stay* myself upon my God ; committing my *ways* unto thee, and casting my *burthen* upon thee, who *carest* for us ; yea, putting my *trust* in thee, though thou *slay* me ; trusting in thy Almighty *power* to help and save ; in thy tender *inclinations* to pity and relieve ; and in the sure *promises* which thy love hath made, and which thy faithfulness will certainly make good unto all that wait and call upon thee, to remember

thy word unto thy servants, upon which thou hast caused them to *hope*. And though I am not presently answered in the wishes of my heart, O let me *tarry* and wait patiently for the salvation of the Lord ; and have my *eyes* upon the Lord my God, till he have mercy on me. Yea, make me so *sound* and *strong* in the faith, that my faith may never *fail* ; but that it may be found to praise, and honour, and glory in every time of *trial*, and at the great *appearing* of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Power to live by Faith upon Christ, and the Divine Promises.

IT is the command of my Saviour, that they who believe in God, should believe also *in him*, as our only *Mediator* with the Father ; to whom none can come, but by him : neither is there *salvation* in any other ; who counts it no robbery to be *equal* with God : Yea, who himself is over all, *God blessed for ever*. But it is life eternal to *know* him : And none shall perish that *believes* in him. O the *riches* of grace, and the wonders of divine mercy, that it should so be done to poor sinners. Blessed forever be thy glorious name, O God of all grace, who of thy abundant mercy hast provided such a wonderful *remedy* for our sinful *misery* ; to save us through *faith* in him, where we could not be saved by any merits or *performances* of our own.

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Great and Holy Lord ! in all that ever I do I cannot but see the extreme *need* of a Saviour and that I am *undone* without the free grace of God in Jesus Christ. And therefore I desire to go even out of *myself*, and to be found in *him*, not having my own righteousness, but that which is through the *faith* of him ; and to sit down under the shadow of that blessed *tree of life*, which yields the richest *fruits*, most sweet to the taste of all *sensible* souls. O that Christ, who is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that *believeth*, may be the Lord my *righteousness* ! that his righteousness may be *imputed to me* : And that with the heart I may believe unto righteousness ; even so believe in Jesus Christ, that I may be *justified* by faith, and have *peace* with God through him.

The Blessed Jesus is my Life and Strength, my wisdom and riches, my health and joy, my glory, and my *all* : there is no *healing* for my soul, but in his *blood* : no *peace* for my conscience, but in his *reconciling* me to God : no *satisfaction* to my mind, but in that most perfect *atonement*, which satisfies even the strictest justice of *heaven*. O none but Christ ; none but Christ ! without this *All-sufficient* Redeemer, I am a *lost creature*. I beseech thee, therefore, O Lord, (whatever else I want) leave me not *destitute* of him ; but give me Christ, or I die *eternally*. Though I confess myself most *unworthy* of him, and that I deserve to go *for ever without* him : because I have so wickedly *despised* him, and neglected his great salvation,

and *abused* all his kindness and love ; yet I dare not add this to all my other offences, to *despair* of that mercy of thine, O Lord, which in him thou art pleased to hold forth, even to the most *sinful* and *unworthy*. Seeing thou art in Christ Jesus, a God *reconciling* the world to thyself, and hast given him to be the *propitiation* for our sins : and he came to seek and to save even the *lost*, and to call sinners to repentance ; and invites to him the *labouring* and *heavy-laden* ; yea, bids whoever is athirst to come, and take the water of *life* freely, without *money*, and without *price* ; and promises that such as come to him, he will in no wise *cast out* : To him therefore I *look*, and in him will I *trust* ; and of thee, my gracious Father, I beg for help to do it as I ought. O be thou pleased to shine into my heart with thy heavenly light to *reveal* thy Son in me ; and to shew me his *All-sufficiency* for me, and my own happy *share* and *interest* in him. Dear Lord ! give me thy Son to save me ; and give me thy *spirit* to draw me to him, and enable me to take *hold* of him, to *rely* upon him, and to *believe* in him, to the saving of my *soul*. O make me more acquainted with the way of saving sinners by Jesus Christ : and help me (for my own part) to *acquiesce* in it, and to *submit to the righteousness* of God.

Seeing thou, O God of all Grace, justifiest sinners freely by thy *grace*, not for the worth of our *works*, but for the worthiness of thy Son, through the redemption that is in Jesus Christ,

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Christ, O may it be *given* unto me to be on him, and to repose all my *trust* in him, believing I may have *life* through his name. And may I still be fully persuaded in my heart that he is the true Messiah, and the only viour of the world ; and never distrust *power*, or his *love* ; nor be faithless, but believing that Christ is my Lord and my Saviour who loved me, and washed me from my iniquities in his own *blood*. And the God of hope comfort me with all *joy* and *peace* in believing that his love may be all my *solace*, and my soul's *rest* : to sit at the feet of Jesus, to cast my burthen upon the Lord, and to lean on the *beloved* of my soul, and upon the *promises* of God in Christ. Though there's nothing in me but *pollution* and *disorder*, O let me not keep off from my Saviour ; but come to him at his *call*, and believe in the name of the *Son of God*, to be made clean and whole. None can more *need* his love than I do : O that it may not pass by me, but let the Saviour of the *world* be the Saviour of my *soul* ; and let Christ *abide* with my spirit, and be ever at hand to do me *good*. O my Redeemer may look with such an eye of favour upon me, and revive me with some token of his love, which is better than all the pleasures and comforts of the *world*.

Help me, O thou great *Author* and *Finisher* of our faith, to pray in faith ; believing I shall receive the things which I ask in thy name. O my Lord, and my God ! make me *to know* and to believe the *love* thou

to me ; yea, that thou hast loved me with an everlasting love. And let it bear me up under all *troubles*, fortify me against all *temptations*, and quicken and enable me for the performance of all my *duties*, to know whom I have *believed*, and to know that the Lord Jesus Christ is *my Strength and my Redeemer*. O that Christ may dwell in my *heart* by faith ; and that the *life* which I now live, may be by the *faith* of the Son of God, who *loved* me and *gave* himself for me : in whom, though I now see him not, yet *believing*, let me rejoice with unspeakable glorious *joy*.

It is thy gracious promise, Lord, to *blot* out thy peoples' transgressions, for thy *own* sake, and to *heal* their backslidings, and not *remember* their sins, nor let sin have *dominion* over them : yea, to have mercy even upon the *wicked* and the *unrighteous* man forsaking his way, and his thoughts, and *abundantly* to pardon ; to give to thy servants the heart of *flesh* ; a *new* heart, and a *new* spirit : to teach them, and quicken them : to put thy *spirit* within them, and *cause* them to walk in thy *statutes*, and to keep thy *judgments*, and to do them ; to perform the *good work* in them : and though they fall, to *uphold* them with thy hand, and let none *pluck* them out of it : yea, to put thy fear in their hearts, that they shall not *depart* from thee, and to *preserve* them to thy heavenly kingdom, and give unto them *eternal life*. O exceeding great and precious *promises* ! no such *cordials* to poor fainting souls ! for they are *may* !

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that which is well-pleasing in thy sight through Jesus Christ. Yea, thou hast encouraged us to come boldly to the *throne of grace* that we may obtain *mercy* and find *grace* to help in time of *need*. Lord of Power and Love ! I come, trusting in thy Almighty *strength*, and thy infinite *goodness*, and thy gracious *promise* ; to beg from thee what is wanting in myself ; even that *grace* which shall help me *such to be*, and *such to do*, as thou wouldst have me. O my God ! let thy *grace* be *sufficient* for me, and ever present with me ; and let thy good *spirit* help my *infirmities*, and strengthen me with might in the *inner man*, so to enable me against my *sins*, and for thy *service*, that I may be *strong* in the Lord, and in the power of his might ; and do all things as I ought, through Christ strengthening me.

O thou that hast shewed thyself still graciously on my behalf, and brought me on *hitherto*, never cast me off, I beseech thee, nor *abandon* me over to myself, who am a *reed* shaken with the wind, a *leaf* driven to and fro : but let me still experience thy *help* at hand, and my God performing all things for me. I will go forth in the strength of the Lord God, and trust in the Lord Jehovah, in whom is everlasting strength. O my Lord ! come into my *succour*, and be thou my *helper*, to carry me on beyond my own strength, and to make all that I think, and speak, and do, *acceptable* in thy sight. O may I both put forth myself, to *stir up* the grace of God that is in me ; and also find *such fresh supplies* of grace, that I may see

my desires *accomplished*, and my endeavours brought to good *effect* : and so rejoice in the Lord, and glory in thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Strength and our Redeemer. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Sincerity.

O MY Lord, the only wise God, whose understanding is *infinite*, and from whom no *thought* can be with-holden ! Thou fillest the whole world with thy *presence*, and hast all things ever *naked* and *open* before thine eyes. Thou that teachest man all his knowledge, shalt not thou know ? O Lord, thou searchest the heart, and hast even the *secretest* of our sins in the light of thy *countenance* ; and thou chiefly callest for our *hearts* ; and requirest truth in the *inward parts* ; and wilt bring every work into *judgment*, and every *secret* thing, whether good or evil. My God, I acknowledge and bewail here before thee, the *guile* and *deceitfulness* of my heart : that I have been so *unmindful* of thy all-seeing eye, ever intent upon me : and that I have made so *bold* with thy glorious Majesty, still *present* with me. For which I confess, O Lord, thou mightest long since have cut me off, and appointed me my portion with *hypocrites*. But as thou hast spared me, so humble me, I beseech thee, and pardon me, for all such *hypocrisy*, and treacherous dealing, whereof I have been guilty. And thou that speakest to the *heart*, and canst order it, even as thou wilt, *O make my heart right* with God, and without
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any *allowed* guile in thy sight : so *found* in thy statutes, that I may not be ashamed ; nor be found wanting of what I profess myself to be, when thou shalt come to take an *account* of me.

O let thy *all-seeing* eye, and not the eye of the world be the *star* to steer my course by : And let thy blessed *favour*, more than the *liking* of any sinful men, be ever my study and delight. Search me, O God, and try me ; and whatever unpardoned guilt, or unrepented wickedness, whatever unknown error, or countenanced lust lies in my soul, O help me to see it, and of thy mercy, *deliver* me from it : and let me not regard iniquity in my heart : let no presumptuous sins have *dominion* over me. Let me not *allow* myself in any way of wickedness ; nor go on in *formality* and *hypocrisy* to serve thee : but walk before thee with an *upright* heart, and do all *sincerely* and *heartily*, as to the Lord. O let me not be only *almost*, but *altogether* a Christian ; obeying from the *heart*, all thy will delivered to us, to be done by us ; and not so much concerned to seem religious and good, as such to be *in deed* and *in truth*. Make me willing to part with the *dearest* sins, and to perform the *hardest* duties, for the sake of my Lord ; who parted with the *highest* glory, and underwent the *foremost* misery, for the sake of my *soul*. O make me true to my own *convictions*, and *faithful* in exerting my own *endeavours* : yea, make me ever *jealous* over my heart, and *conscientious* in all my thoughts, and words, and *ways*. That I may not go *self-condemned*, for
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walking in a *disguise*, and only shewing to be what I am not; that my praise may not be of *men*, but of God; and that I may have continual rejoicing in the *testimony of conscience*, and that *peace* of God which passeth all understanding. O my Father, who see'st in *secret*! let the *pleasing* of thy holy *will*, and the *honouring* of thy blessed *name*, and the enjoying of thy gracious *favour*, be the great *end*, which I design and aim at, in all my actions and undertakings: that thou, the great and good God, mayest in all things be *glorified* by me, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Humility.

O MOST High God, infinitely glorious above all our expressions, or our thoughts! Thou fitte'st on the *circle* of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as *grasshoppers*: yea, before thee, all nations are as nothing, and counted to thee *less* than nothing and vanity. O what is *man*, that thou shouldest be so *mindful* of him! yea that he should be so *unmindful* of his own vileness and sinfulness, to exalt and lift up himself, and to swell with the *conceit* of his own worth and excellence! I desire, O Lord, to *humble* myself, that I have been no more *humble*; but have thought more highly of myself than I ought to think; and *vain-gloriously* set off myself before men, when I deserve only to be *despised*, and nothing but *confusion* is my portion. O thou that resistest
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the *proud*, and givest grace to the *humble*, give me the *grace of humility*, and make me mean and vile in my own *eyes*, that I may be accepted in *thy sight*. Make me, Lord, of the number of those *poor in spirit*, those *humble* and *contrite ones*, to whom thou wilt *look*, and with whom thou wilt dwell.

O set my sins in order before me, and make me to know my transgressions, that I may not *flatter* myself in my own eyes, but carry it as becomes poor sinful *dust and ashes*, who deserve to be *trodden* under foot, and to be cast out as the *off-scouring* of all things ; taking nothing but *shame* to myself, and giving all the *glory* to thee, of whatever is *good* in me. Great and holy God ! make me more studious to be thy *favourite* than to be so *accounted* ; and better pleased to do my *duty* than to *bear* of it : Neither of *men* let me seek glory, but the honour that comes of God only. And the more I have *received* from thee, the more let me *ascribe* unto thee : and not be proudly opinionated of myself ; but give all thanks and glory to *thee* for any good wherein thou hast made me to *differ* : not loving or intending the *praise* of men, in doing the *work of God* ; but performing all my offices, as one that is *indeed* (and not only called) *thy humble servant*.

O discover me so to myself, that I may still walk *humbly* with my God, and be *cloathed* with humility ; consider how frail I am, as a *creature* ; and how vile, as a *sinner*. Let me ever *detest* and dread, and resist the pride that

goes before destruction ; and so humble myself under thy *mighty hand*, that thou mayest *exalt* me in due time. And for all the good ever I have *performed* or *enjoyed*, not unto me, O Lord, not unto me, but to thy *name* be all the praise and glory, humbly and heartily acknowledged and rendered, now and for evermore. Amen.

A Prayer for Mindfulness of God's Presence.

O LORD, the infinite, incomprehensible God ! Thou art the high and holy One, who inhabitest *eternity*, and dwellest in the light which no man can approach to. And from thy glorious throne in heaven, thou lookest down upon all the *inhabitants* of the earth : and hast thy eyes in *every place*, and ponderest *every thing*. Though no *mortal eye* can see thee ; no created understanding is able to comprehend thee : Yet thou art here, and every where *present*, and now and evermore thou *seest* us, and understandest our very *thoughts* afar off ; and art thoroughly acquainted with all our *ways*. Yea, thou art so *universally* observant, as to have a particular concern for every *person* and *action* in the world. Great God, thou fillest heaven and earth with thy *presence*, O fill my heart with thy *grace*, and the *mindfulness* of thy presence with me ; that I may set the Lord always before me : and evermore *remember* thee in all my ways.

O that ever I should *forget* God that made me ! the God who quickens every thing that
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is; *concurs* with every thing that moves; and *holds* every thing that has a being throughout world! O that I should live so much *with* thee in the world, in whom I ever *live*, and *be*, and *am*! and who hast still been with me, and watchful for good over me all my days. Holy God, because I have *regarded* thee more, thou mightest make me *sensible* of thy presence, in *judgments* worthy of thyself. O Lord, in mercy pardon all such my sinful neglect and *inadvertance*. And as I am exposed to thy *all-seeing eye*, so make me *duly aware* of it. And let the remembrance of thy presence *sway* and *guide* me, secret and in company, at all times, in all places, and in all my actions: That I may demean myself as ever under the *awful* presence of the great God of heaven and earth, and *love* thee above all other *powers*; *love* thee above all other Gods, *serve* thee before all other gods, and *trust* in thee more than in any other god. Yea, let me *rejoice* under the shadow of thy wings, and herein *solace* myself, that thou art my *right-hand*, and ever *with* me. O let the remembrance of my Lord be *grievous* to me; but let my meditations of God be *sweet*, as well as *frequent*; that delighting myself in thy Lord, thou mayest give unto me the *desires* of my heart; and so guide me with thine *eye*, that as I am still *manifest*, I may be also still *protected* in thy blessed sight, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Tenderness of Heart.

ALMIGHTY Lord, the God of all grace, who speakest to the *heart*, and it obeys thee ; and when it is grown *callous* and hard, canst make it soft and *relenting* ; and give sight and sense even to such as are *blind* and *past feeling* ! O shew the power of thy heavenly *grace*, in working upon this stupid, insensible *heart* of mine, so as to make me know, both the evil of my *sins*, and the things of my *peace*. And be thou pleased to give me such a *fight* of my *sins*, such *humiliation* of soul, and *brokenness* of heart, as may prepare me for all the promised mercies of God in Jesus Christ. O *Father of mercies* ! punish not my *past sins*, by leaving me to commit sin with *greediness* ; nor ever give me up to such *blindness* of mind, and *hardness* of heart, as shall render me *senseless* and *incorrigible*. But quicken and awake my dull soul into a lively *sense* of sin, and tenderness of conscience and due *apprehension* of my great and eternal concerns. O make me ever jealous over my *heart*, and *watchful* over my ways ; continually fearing to *offend*, and endeavouring to *please* my God ; keeping my heart with all *diligence*, that it be not *hardened* through the deceitfulness of sin ; and keeping at that *distance* which thy holy word teaches us to keep from every evil and accursed thing that is *provoking* in thy sight and *destructive* to my soul.

O let me not continue in sin, that grace may
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A Prayer for a tender Heart. 165

abound ; nor kick against the *bowels* of mercy, that so long has *borne* with me, and been so abundantly *good* to me : But give me, O my God, such a fulness of *new life* as may beget in me a greater quickness of *spiritual sense* ; and make my conscience quick of *feeling*, even as the *apple of my eye* ; that I may so *feel* my sins here, as to prevent my *feeling*, of them for ever, when there shall be no remedy. *From hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word and commandments, good Lord deliver me.* And give me a heart so soft and tender, as to *smite* and *correct* me for every, even the least, sinful evil ; and to hold me back not only from *grass* and *scandalous* offences, but from all that is *suspicious*, or that has a tendency to *sin* ; from the *occasions* of falling, and all *appearances* of evils. O let me so observe thee with *child-like* tenderness, and *awful* regard, all the days of my life, that I may not *slavishly* dread thee ; so as to be consumed with *terrors* in the great day of thy *wrath*, but may then receive the blessed portion of thy *children*, who lived still *looking* and *preparing* for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for the Fear of God.

O LORD the great and dreadful God, in whose hands is my *time* ; at whose mercy my *soul*, and all that concerns me both here and for ever. Thou, even thou, art to be *feared* : and who may stand in thy sight when

once thou art angry ! The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom ; and happy is the man that *feareth* always ! But to harden our hearts against thy fear, is not only *folly* and *impiety*, but *madness* and *ruin*. I am *afraid*, O Lord, because I have feared thee *no more* ; but have made so *bold* with thy glorious Majesty, and with thy holy laws : who canst whenever thou pleasest, *avenge* thee of thy adversaries, and kill and cast sinners into *hell*, that I have been so *fearless* in the ways of sin, where I should not have dared to be seen, and so *timorous* in the cause of God where I should not have feared the *face* of any man. O absolve me, I beseech thee, good Lord, from all such *guilt* that lies upon me, and put thy *fear* into my *heart*, that I may never experience what a *fearful* thing it is to fall into thy *hands*. O incite my heart to fear thy *name* ! And let thy *fear* be ever before my *eyes*, to restrain me from the *evil* of my ways. O let me so stand in *awe* of thee, that I may not dare to *provoke* thee. Let me not be so much afraid of any man that shall die as of the Almighty ever-living God ; nor so fear any *loss* or *suffering* that can but take away a *temporal good*, as I fear the *sin* and *wickedness* that would deprive me of the *good everlasting*. O let me fear the Lord and *depart* from evil ; and have my God in such *regard*, that I may not offer wilfully to *violate* thy holy laws, but fear to *dishonour* thy name, or to *rebel* against thy *word*, or to rest *short* of what thou requirest at my hand. And O that thy fear may not
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only keep under some of my sins, but regulate my whole *life*, and sway my very heart ; that I may do thy will entirely from the *heart*, and go on to perfect holiness in the *fear* of God.

May I fear thy *name*, and not *blaspheme* it ; fear thy *wrath*, and not *provoke* it ; fear thy *word*, and not *despise* it ; fear thy *goodness*, and not *abuse* it ; fear thy *omniscience*, and not make bold with *secret sins* ; fear thy *omnipotence*, and not strive with my Maker in any case. And give me, O my God, the right mixture of *fear* and *faith*, to keep me in an even temper, between *presuming* and *despairing* that no *crosses* or evils coming upon me, may ever make my faith to *sail*, or sink me down into such *conservations* as to unfit me for my *duty* ; and that no *successes*, and fair *prospects* of the *world's good* before me, may harden me into a wretched *boldness* with thee, nor lift me up into *wantonness* and *stubbornness* against thee ; but that I may keep up an *awful* regard of thy glorious Majesty, and a *dutiful* respect to all thy holy *commands* evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Love of God.

THOU infinite *goodness* and *love*, who art most *sweet* and *amiable* in thyself ! and most full of *invitation*, for all thy own glorious *excellencies*, and unspeakable *perfections* ; and also for thy loving-kindness, and all the wonders of thy *mercy* and *bounty* to thy creatures ! 'Tis the *riches* of thy *grace* to make us capable

of this blessed privilege, to love thee : But which the highest *angels* know no greater Yea, that thou hast not only given us *ties* for it, but the greatest *obligations* to our hearts to it. Yet, after all the reasons and motives which we have to love our Lord, O how poor and *defective* has been my love, in what *strangeness* and *enmity* to thee, have I lived ! 'Tis my sin and misery, to be so *listless* and backward to thy love. O my God, I have done so and wickedly, in forsaking the *fountain* of waters, to hew to myself the *broken cistern* that can hold no water ; shutting my eyes against the love of my *chiefest good*, which has still been doing me *good* ; and laid fresh obligations upon me with thy renewed mercies every day : And preferring any *trifles* and *vanities* of this present time ; yea, and the satisfaction of my own foolish and hurtful passions above thee and thy love, which is better *life*.

O good God ! be thou pleased to purify all the desires of my love to thee, and to deliver me from all earthly things ; and to free me from all *affections* from all vain things, to thy *blessed self*, who art the *worthiest* object of my love ; and (to conquer all my prejudice and to ever win my heart) O shew thyself as a *pardoning* God : full of compassion, and willing to forgive and *willing* to save me. Yea, let me know so much of the love which thou hast loved me, that I may make

returns of love to the gracious Giver of all my *good*. Touch my heart with such a powerful sense of thy *loveliness* and thy *loving-kindness*, that I may experience stronger *desires* and *inclinations* after thee, and greater *complacency* and *delight* in thee ; and may love all other things in comparison of my *best* and *dearest* Lord, as if I loved them not.

The Lord *direct* my heart into the love of God ; and shed abroad and *increase* thy love in my heart, that I may love the Lord my God with all my *heart* and *soul*, and *mind* and *might*. O disgrace to me all such *tempting* things of the world as would draw away my love from *thyself* ; and so *discover* thyself to my soul, as may *take* my heart ; that this heart of mine which has been so *cold* and *dull*, and *dead* to thy love, may feel its mighty *warmth* and *power* ; and from complaining of the *want*, may come to rejoice in the abundance of it. O my *life*, my *hope*, and *joy*, that hast so much and eternally *obliged* me ! give me the *grace* and the *power* to love thee : Let me be still *ongoing* to *appear* before thee, and delight in the duties that bring me nigh to thee, and that *help* me to *communion* with thee. Increase my love to thy *word*, and to all the things of thy *spirit* and *grace* ; and let me take more satisfaction and pleasure in the light of thy *countenance* than in the increase of *corn* and *wine*, and all the most desired enjoyments of this *life*. O let me not rest in the *gifts*, forgetting the *bountiful Giver* of every good thing, but
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draw and join my heart, dear Lord, still to thyself with the *cords of love*. And tog with all my enjoyments in the *world*, let me enjoy still more of thee *my God*; in enjoyment of whom consists all my true and *peace*, and *happinefs*, here and for ever. Engage to thyself, O my Lord, the chie choicest *affections* of my heart; and take in me a willing *captive* of thy love: And help me to verify my love of God, by hating of *evil*, keeping thy *commands*, and delighting to do thy *will*, O my God. Let the *desire* of my heart, the *care* of my heart, and the *endeavour* of my *life*, be to *observe* and *please* thee. And direct and cure my heart, Lord, to thee, that I may not go a *whoring* from thee; but may be *rooted* and *grounded* in thy love; and through thy *help* and *grace*, may *keep* myself in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life. Amen.

A Prayer for Hope.

O LORD God of *hope*, the blessed Father of all our great and glorious *expectations*: thou hast promised thy people such bliss and glory as is not only above all our *desires* to enjoy, but above all our very *thoughts* to conceive. Yet 'tis not too *great* for thy Almighty *hand*, and thy boundless *love* to *give*: because thou givest so like *thyself*; and hast made *preparations* for thy people, answering to *thy own* infinite greatness and goodness.

fore thou art not *ashamed* to be called their God. None has seen that can tell or think, the things which thou, O God, hast laid up for them that *love* thee. But it is good to *hope*, and quietly wait for the *salvation* of the Lord. Even in *dark* days, and perilous times, that make us know adversity, and threaten us still with more; yet patiently to wait for what we *hope*, till he that *hides* his face from us cause the light of his countenance to break out upon us.

O my God! give me such a *hope* as may lift up my *head*, and strengthen my *heart*, and embolden my *spirit*, against all temptations and discouragements of the *present time*; that I may never yield to any *consternations*, so as to destroy my faith and *hope*, and unfit me for my work and thy service. O give me for a *helmet* the hope of salvation; that *hope* which may be as the *anchor* of my soul. sure and steadfast. O let me *hope*, and praise thee more and more! and rejoice in the *hope* that leaveth not *ashamed*: yea, and hold fast the rejoicing of my *hope* firm to the end.

Though I am sinful and *unworthy*, yet let me hope in the Lord, with whom is mercy, and plenteous redemption, to redeem his people from all their *iniquities*. O gracious God, infinitely good! I could have no *hope* but in thy tender *mercies* in thy beloved Son, and in thy faithful *promises*; which do give assurance of *pardon* and *acceptance* to all that humbly and believingly apply themselves to thee, in
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the name and mediation of Jesus Christ. I beseech thee, O Lord, remember thy-*self* to thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to *hope*. O seal me with that holy *seal* of promise, which is the *earnest* of our inheritance, that I may *abound* in hope, through power of the Holy Ghost. O let Christ in be my *hope* of glory: And having this hope, help me to *purify* myself, as my Lord requires, that my hopes may be *rational* and well grounded hopes, to see and enjoy the Lord and to live in thy kingdom and glory, *and* be *blessed* for evermore. Amen.

A Prayer for Charity.

O MOST gracious and merciful Lord God, who art very goodness and *love* itself; thou hast commanded, that he who loveth thee should *love* his brother also! that we should *love* our neighbour as *ourselves*. Father of mercies, forgive me all my *sin* *uncharitableness*; and give me a heart to abound with *loving-kindness* to all the partakers of nature, that are the *work* of thy hands, *share*rs in my hope. Let me not despise for their *low* estate, nor hate any for their *abusive* carriage, nor cast off any as reprob for their *scandalous* wickedness; but be kindly *affectioned* unto all; desirous of their holiness and happiness, and contributing what lies in me to promote it; shewing the *mercy* which thou knowest I need; and forgiving others.

I myself desire to be *forgiven* ; yea, *ready* to distribute, and *willing* to communicate. As I would be glad to find *favour*, and receive supply of my own *wants*, give me, O gracious God, a *large* heart and (according to my ability) an *open* hand, that I may give *cheerfully*, and so *plentifully* while I have time, doing *good* unto all men, especially to them that are of the *household* of faith ; yea loving the *opportunities* of such well-doing ; and blessing thy name, who hast so blest and enabled me ; and refreshing my own *bowels*, in making the *loins* of the *poor* to bless me.

And O that we may all approve ourselves the disciples of our Lord, by the *love* we have one for another ; and shew that we are passed from *death* to *life*, because we *love* the *brethren*, and bear the greatest kindness to the children of God ; ever esteeming and affecting them above all ; and tendering such as nearest and dearest to *us* that are so to thy *blessed self*. O let our love be without *disimulation* ; not only in word and in tongue, but in *deed* and in *truth* ; loving one another with a pure heart, fervently ; loving even the *worst*, so as to wish them well, and seek their *good* ; and having our delight in the *saints* that are in the earth, and the righteous that are more *excellent* than their neighbours ! loving them for thy holy *image* and *spirit* appearing in them ! and setting our hearts upon them, because thou art with them, and hast a peculiar *favour* to them, and with an everlasting love hast loved them. O

Lord of love, keep me from *conformities*, and rash judging of any; that I may think and hope the *best* of all, which their case will admit; and love every one for his *sake* who has shewed the *greatest* love to us all, even our dearest Lord, and only Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Unity.

O GOD of the spirits of all flesh, who hast made of *one blood* all nations of men, to dwell on the face of the whole *earth*! wilt thou make us to agree in *mind* and *affection* as we do in *nature* and *constitution*, and *give to all nations unity, peace, and concord*. And as thou hast called the faithful, all throughout the world, into one *body*, to make the multitude of believers (as once they were) of *one heart*, and of *one soul*. O let not the *seamless* coat of Christ be torn in pieces; nor thy *church* be rent into *schisms* and contending parties, fierce and bitter against one another; but make us one *fold*, and *unanimous flock*, under Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls. O put a *healing* plaister on our *bleeding* wounds; and let not those invidious names of *sides*, and parties, that *exasperate*, be kept up, to give *distaste* and *prejudice*; but take away from the midst of us that *perverse spirit*, which makes us a nation void of *counsel*; and not understanding the things of our *peace*; but *dash* ourselves one against another. O God of
peace.

peace ! dispose our hearts to hearken to all peaceable *counsels*, and to comply with all healing *designs*. And so allay the *beats* which our dissensions have raised, that amidst the *variety* of apprehensions, we may yet keep the *unity* of the spirit in the bond of *peace* ; and evidence our relation to the *Prince of Peace*, by following after those things that make for *peace*.

O Lord, rebuke the storms of our animosities and debates ; and say to those winds and waves, *Peace, be still* ; and they will obey thee. O wilt thou heal our *breaches*, and give us first the true peace with God, as the foundation for firm and lasting peace with *one another*. O that the *uniting* spirit of Christ Jesus may so far revail upon us, as to draw and knit us together in the blessed *communion* of thy saints ; that we may with *combined* wills and interest ; as one *man*, put forth ourselves to advance the glory of thy *name*, the *public good*, and the common salvation of all our *souls*, through thy rich mercy to us in our blessed *Peace-maker*, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Meekness and Peaceableness.

O ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men ! wilt thou be pleased to regulate by *exorbitant* passions, and suppress in me that *ride* from whence cometh contention ; and eat down every *rebellious* motion that exalts

itself against peace and patience, and gentleness and meekness of spirit! O help me to put away all bitterness and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, with all malice. And however I am tempted and *provoked*, O that I may possess my soul in *patience*; and not be overcome with *evil*, but overcome evil with *good*: And enable us, O God of Patience, to bear one another's burdens, and to *forbear* one another in love, that we may not *contend* but for the faith of Christ; nor *strive* but to enter in at the strait gate; nor *provoke* one another, but unto love and good works.

O if thou the great God shouldst enter into judgment with me, and break out in *fury* upon me, as I have been ready to take *fire* at affront, and to fall with rage upon my *antagonist*, Lord how soon should I be consumed, and sink under the saddest *misery*, past *recovery*; O may I ever dread to be *rigid* and cruel, who know the extreme *need* that I have of mercy! And thou the God of peace and love, forgive me, I beseech thee, all the sins that ever I have committed against *peace* and *love*. O let the *peace of God* rule in my heart; and thy wonderful long-suffering of me be ever an *engagement* upon me to shew all *meekness* to all men, and bear the ignorance and weakness, the follies and mistakes, the wrongs and indignities of my fellow-creatures; seeing I myself am undone, without the *forbearance* of God, and have nothing to hope for, and to comfort myself in, but the finding of such favour at his hands.

O teach and help us all to live in *peace*, and to love in *truth* ; follow peace with all men, and walking in love as Christ loved us, that we may be united and knit together as fellow-members of the same *body*, whereof he is the glorious *head* ; who, tho' extremely *wronged* and *provoked*, yet did not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his *voice* to be heard in the streets. Of whom let me learn such *meekness* and *lowliness* of heart, that in him I may find *rest* for my soul. O my God ! suppress all bitter *resentments* in my mind ; and let the law of *kindness* be in my tongue, and a meek and quiet *spirit* shewing itself in all the *conduct* of my life. And, Lord, make us all so gentle and peaceable, and easy to be intreated, and hard to be provoked, that we may be followers of God, as *dear children* ; and that thou, the God of Peace, mayest be with us, and delight to dwell amongst us, and rejoice over us, to do us good, for thy mercy's sake, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A prayer under Abuses and Provocations.

O MOST high and wise, holy and righteous Judge of all the earth, the great author and lover of *peace* and *truth* ; thou knowest my *foolishness*, and my sins are not hid from thee. How far I have been *accessary* to pull down these troubles and mischiefs upon my own *head* ; and how much worse than any of these, I *deserve* at thy hands, is all naked and open to thine eyes. I submit, Lord, to thy correction,

who doſt often uſe ſuch *inſtruments* of thy diſpleaſure. And O that the *ill-will* of men may quicken me the more to examine myſelf for that which is *offenſive* in thy ſight ; and make me more careful to have my heart right with God ; and to *ingratiate* myſelf with heaven which will more than *recompence* for the loſs of any one's favour in the world.

But ſeeing my heart condemns me not in the preſent caſe, for being the *cauſe* of all thy wrath and clamour, and malice and vengeance and herein I apprehend myſelf now to ſuffer *wrongfully*, being ſlanderouſly reported, falſely accuſed, ſhamefully and deſpitefully uſed, and hated without a cauſe ; I take the boldneſs to pour out my *complaint* before thee, O God, and to ſhelter myſelf under the ſhadow of thy wing. Plead my cauſe, O Lord, with them that *ſtrive* with me ; and ſave me from thoſe that riſe up againſt me. Though for my *love*, they are my *adverſaries*, let me give myſelf to *prayer* ; and not *avenge* myſelf, but give place unto wrath and commit my cauſe to thee that judge *righteouſly*. O convince my adverſaries of the *error* they are in ; and turn them from the *way* they are upon : And the remainder of thy *wrath*, O do thou *reſtrain*, and here make me a way to *eſcape*, as thou haſt ſo often been my *help*.

I confeſs, O Lord, thou mighteſt juſtly ſend them that provoke me, as thy *ſcourge* to chaſtiſe me, for provoking thee ; and I know not but ſuch now may be thy pleaſure. O help me to be patient

patiently to bear the *indignation* of the Lord ; because I have so greatly sinned against thee ; and however I am *pursued* and struck at, O let me not render *evil* for *evil*, nor *railing* for *railing*, but, contrarywise, *blessing* ; considering him that endured so great *contradiction* of sinners against himself, that I be not *wearied* and *faint* in my mind. If the man after thy own *heart* had so many bitter *implacable* enemies, that not only traduced his name, but fought his *life* ; if thy holy *Apostle* was called a *babblers* and *troubler* of the world, and a *pestilent* fellow, not fit to live ; yea, if the Son of thy eternal love had the report of a *wine-bibber*, a *friend* of publicans and sinners, a *deceiver* of the people, and a dealer with the *devil* ; if he that deserved so well of men, fared so *ill* at their hands ; if he that did no *sin* was persecuted, as if he had been the chief of *sinners* ; if he *suffered* so much evil, who never *deserved* any, O why should such an unworthy sinful *wretch* as I, to whom belongs *confusion* of face, and the *worst* punishment, so heinously resent it as *insufferable*, to be set at *nought*, and but to endure the *correction* of my own wickedness ; though I deserve it not from *them*, yet, O how much worse do I deserve from thy *heavenly* Majesty offended by my sins, who mayest justly pay me by thy *hands* ; let men then say, or do what they can against me ; O let me be as a *deaf* man that heareth not ; and as a *dumb* man that opens not his mouth ; little regarding the anger of *man* if I can but be happy in

the favour of my God. O Lord, keep back thy servant from giving any *just* provocation and let me not suffer as an *evil-doer* ; nor let the *woe* be to me, because *offence* cometh to me ; and then, when persecuted for *righteousness* sake, I shall rejoice and bless thy name and give thee thanks and praise for all thy *grace* and *goodness* to me in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer under Infamy and Disgrace.

O LORD ! righteousness belongs to thee but to me *confusion* of face, as it is thy day. Shame is the portion of my sins ; and deserve no better than to be slighted and despised *myself*, who have so slighted thy laws, and despised the glorious Majesty of heaven. If I had been *innocent*, I might have been *confident* to lift up my face without *spot* ; but woe to me that I have sinned, to make myself *vile* and fit only to be *trampled* on. As far as I am *obnoxious* and guilty, I take *shame* to myself, the reward of my *folly* and *wickedness*. And that I may so *feel* it here, that I may not hereafter awake to shame and *everlasting* contempt. And let not any that wait on thee. O Lord God of hosts, be ashamed for my *sake* : yes, when I suffer *wrongfully*, yet Lord, help me to take it *patiently*. Though I am reproached for the name of Christ, and persecuted for *righteousness* sake, let me not droop under the censures and scorn of *men*, if I can but find acceptance and *favour in thy sight*. Seeing it is not meet
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applause or *reproach*, that can make us *happy* or *miserable*, though we have their good opinion and *commendation*, we are never the better when put with *heaven* : and though we have *lost* ourselves with them, we are never the worse, when we *approve* ourselves to him that searches our *hearts*. Thy word, O Lord, gives us encouragement, suffering as Christians, that we should not be *ashamed*, but glorify thee on this behalf. And thy *apostles*, who were made as the *filth* of the world, and the *off-scouring* of all things, rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer *shame* for the name of Jesus. Though I pass through *evil* report, as well as *good* ; Oh what a small thing is it to be judged of *man's* judgment ! And if thou, my God, wilt have me to be low in the world, yea, even a *hissing* and proverb of reproach, let me bear thy *indignation*, and submit to thy *correction* : not so much concerned for the *disgrace*, as to remove the *cause* ; and be more careful and diligent to please the Lord, and to seek the honour that is of God.

If men speak evil of what they *understand* not, and perverse scoffers, walking after their own lusts, oppose and deride me, contradicting and blaspheming thy *truths*, O let not thy holy religion ever *sink* in my thoughts for any of their *hard* speeches, or *coarse* usage ; but looking unto Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness, that once lay under clouds, the Lord of *glory*, who bore such reproach and *infamy*, who heard ill from the *world* though he never did evil in his

life; and was despised and rejected of *men*, tho' he deserved so much better than ever any did from *them*; let me little regard what *names* they call any of his *household*, who can call the *master* of the house as bad. But may I still follow my blessed Saviour, in *meekness* and *patience*; having my eyes and dependence upon the great *Author* and *Finisher* of our faith; who first *despising*, and then *surmounting* the shame, art now set down at the right hand of the Majesty on *high*: and from thence shalt come in greatest *glory* to judge the *world*; whose name be ever *blessed*, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer for our Enemies.

O LORD of *love*, the Prince of *peace*, thou hast told us, that thou camest to send a *sword* and *fire* upon earth; and that it must needs be, that *offences* come. Even the best of men, in passing through this *tumultuous* world, and often *jostled* and evil entreated. And if it be the lot of thy own holy *followers* to have *hatred* and *tribulation* in the world, O what am I, *vile sinner*, that I should look to be exempted from this *common portion*! Such as I have made my *enemies*, by my *folly* and *miscarriage*, Lord, incline and enable me to *appease* and *gain* them; and so direct my ways to *please* thee, that thou mayest make them be at *peace* with me. And such as are my enemies *wrongfully*, Lord, lay *not* this sin to their charge, but *forgive* them,
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and open their eyes, and pacify their minds, and turn their hearts, that they may see their error, and first be reconciled unto God, and then live with their brethren, in unity and godly love ; and that, at last, I may meet them in the arms of Jesus Christ : and those that will not cease from hating, Lord prevent them from hurting me ; or, though they do me hurt, let me endeavour to do them good ; and not hate, but love my enemies, for thy sake, who hast commanded us to love them ; and who didst express the highest love to us in dying for us, even when we were thy enemies. Let me consider them as thy rod, and the staff of thy indignation, in all that I suffer from them, that instead of striving to *avenge* myself, I may *submit* to thy hand.

O good Lord ! mortify in all of us the *evil* mind, that is *enmity* against God, and those *parts* that war in our members, from whence come wars and *fightings* amongst us. Turn all our *enmity* against the common enemies of our souls ; and join all our hearts to thee, in thy true fear and love, that we may not meditate *revenge*, but study to be *quiet* ; nor foment and pursue our quarrels, but follow after the things that make for *peace* ; and with one mind, and with one mouth, glory our God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*A Prayer under Crosses and Disappointments in
our Affairs.*

O MY Lord ! I live by thee, and do continually depend upon thee, for life and breath, and all things. Thy *providence* has appointed my *station*, and disposes whatever concerns me in the world ; if not so much as a *sparrow* falls on the ground without thee ; and the very *hairs* of our head are all numbered : thou canst not be unconcerned in the *changes* and *accidents* that befall thy *servants* ; and whatever *instruments* and occasions have been in the way, it is thy *pleasure*, that so it should be with me as it is. Restrain me therefore, O Lord from *fretting* myself, to do evil. And ~~help~~ me to take up my *cross*, and follow my ~~meek~~ and lowly Saviour, in *self-denial* and quiet *submission* to the will of my heavenly Father.

O who am I, sinful wretch, who have so much displeased *Thee*, that I should never be *crossed*, nor have any thing to *trouble* me ! Thy *will* be done, O Lord, how much soever it goes against *flesh* and *blood*. And let me ever design thy *glory*, and endeavor to conform to thy *pleasure*, whether it make *for* or against me, in any respects of this *life*. O that I may learn *obedience*, by the things which I *suffer* ! that I may not be worse, but better in my *spiritual* concerns, for these rubs and disappointments in matters of the *world*. And O that the *adverse* things which interrupt and trouble

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me in my designs and *enterprizes* here, may turn all to the glory of thy *name*, and to the furtherance of my comfortable accounts in the hour of *death*, and in the great *day* of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer under Losses and Damage in our Goods and Estate.

BLESSED Lord ! thou art the great *proprietor* and owner of whatever we have to enjoy : The *world* is thine, and the *fulness* thereof : Thou *givest*, and thou takest away : blessed be thy name in all. Thou hast made me *abound* with many things which others are *destitute* of : and if thou also makest me *want* what others *abound* with, yet teach me, my God, how to be *abased*, and to suffer *need*, as well as how to *abound* : and in whatsoever estate I am, therewith to be content : Seeing all these things come alike to all ; and no one knows *love* or *hatred*, by what is here before him. And as it will profit a man nothing to gain the whole *world* and lose his *soul*, so all the losses in the world cannot *undo* him, whose soul is *safe* in thy hands. O let me not grieve, therefore, as if I were *undone*, for what I have *lost* ; but cheerfully commit myself to thee, to choose my *inheritance* for me ; and be least of all concerned for my *worldly* portion, so that I may but see the *joy* of thy *salvation*. And Lord *repair* to me these damages, an infinitely better way, out of thy own *fulness*, with the *more precious things* that accompany *salvation* :
that

that I may imitate thy holy servants of old, who took joyfully the *spoiling* of their goods, as knowing that they had in *heaven* a better and an enduring substance. O make me now the more *solicitous* and *industrious* to lay up my treasure in *heaven* ; when I see how little anything is to be confided in here on *earth*, O let me look less upon these *temporal* things that are seen ; and be most of all concerned, that I lose not the blessed things *eternal*, but provide so well for my *soul* ; and be so rich towards God, that when all here shall *fail* me, *thou* mayest never fail me, but be the strength of my heart, and my *portion* for evermore. Amen.

A Prayer under Confinement and Loss of Liberty.

O LORD my God, infinitely kind and good ! I have, through thy gracious indulgence long enjoyed my *freedom* in the world ; and been permitted to go in and out, whether I would, at my *pleasure* ; but now that I am under *restraint*, and confined to this place, O how much sorer affliction ought I with patience to endure for turning my liberty into *licentiousness*, and flying out (as I have done) into wild *excesses* and *disorders*, to wander from *thee*, and weary myself in the ways of *wickedness* ! This *confinement* I acknowledge to be but the *easy* correction of my *extravagance*, who deserve to be shut up in the eternal *prison*, from whence there is no redemption ; but for thy dear Son, my blessed Saviour's sake, I beg,
Lord,

Lord, that this restraint may be not in *judgment*, but in *mercy* to me, that it may bring me to the consideration and repentance of all those *vicious* liberties which I have taken, to live after my own foolish and hurtful *lusts*; and that it may remove me out of the way of such *temptations* and opportunities of sinning against thee and engage me more closely and dutifully to *attend* upon thee, that in thy service I may find a better freedom than the freedom which I have lost; having free access into thy *presence* and boldness at the *throne* of grace, and deliverance from the *bondage* of my sins, and power to tread down the *enemies* of my soul, and to bring them under, that have reigned over me.

O that I may now be *crucified* to the world, as well as *sequestered* from it, that I may not be turned off with *regret* and a heavy heart, but may leave it in *affection*, as I am now shut out from its *conversation*; that I may in heart and mind ascend and dwell above, and have my conversation in *heaven*, and such fellowship with thee my God and Saviour, which I may infinitely prefer above all the society and enjoyments of the *world*. If the Son of God shall make me *free*, I shall be free *indeed*. O bring my soul out of *prison*, the horrible *pit* of my *sins* and *fears*, that I may not there be kept in *durance* to the *judgment* of the great day; and I will then praise thy name, let my body be shut up in ever so narrow a compass. O set my *feet* in such a large room, my affections at *liberty* to enjoy thy *infinite Self*, and to ex-
pate

tiate in thy heavenly kingdom, that is be-
 lefs and everlasting ; and make me a *fe*
citizen with the saints, and of the *house*
 God ; and then, though I lie in a *jail*, and
grave, yet I shall be a prisoner of *hope*, lo-
 for that blessed hope, to be delivered
 the bondage of *corruption*, into the glo-
 liberties of the *children* of God ; even fo-
 sake, who (for ours) was *apprehended* and
fined, and put to *death*, and laid in the g-
 and now liveth and reigneth with thy et-
 Self, and Holy Spirit, over all, God bl-
 for evermore. Amen.

*A Prayer under sad Accidents and Distasters fa-
 on the Body.*

O LORD, Most High ! the all-dispo-
 God ! thou hast taught us, that afflic-
 rises not out of the *dust*, nor comes by *ch*
 without thy appointment ; but is the *mess*
 dispatched on thy *errands*, who hast an c-
 ruling hand in all these *disasters* that befall
 whatever else be the *occasion* of our hurts :
 still thou hast good *reason* to do as thou
 tho' the reason may be hid from us. I kn-
 O Lord, that thy judgments are *right*,
 that thou in *faithfulness* hast afflicted me.
 why should a living man *complain*, a man
 the *punishment* of his sins ? great God ! I h-
 bly submit to thy *hand*, and will bear the ef-
 of thy *displeasure*, which I have pulled d-
 upon myself. O my Lord, give me *paci*
 and *strength*, and grace, proportionable to

eat *trial* ; and enable me so to demean myself under it, that after the affliction I may find use to say, *it was good for me to be afflicted*. Thou that hast torn and *smitten*, thou alone able to *heal*, and bind up my breaches : wilt thou remember me in my *low estate*, out of that mercy of thine which endures forever ; and help me to find out the *curfed* things that have *provoked* thee so to stretch out thy hand upon me. O that I may search and try my ways, and turn to the Lord, and bring forth fruits meet for *repentance* ; and for his sake who was *wounded* for our transgressions, and *bruised* for our iniquities, Lord *forgive*, and *pardon* my soul that has sinned against thee ; and in good time, repair the breaches made upon my *body* too, if it seem good in thy sight, and make me to hear *joy* and *gladness*, that the *mercies* which thou hast *broken* may *rejoice*.

If thou wilt, Lord, thou canst make me *whole*. O may it be thy gracious pleasure to work so *wonderfully* for me, and *glorify* thy power and mercy in my help and *recovery* ; or, however thou shalt dispose of this *vile body*, grant me, O my God, an humble *resignation* to thy will, and *satisfaction* with thy dealings, and make this sad dispensation which is so grievous at the time, gracious in the *issue*. O make it the messenger of thy love to my *soul*, and the means of *converting* and *sanctifying* it, and preparing it for the Lord, and fitting it to receive all the saving *mercies* of God, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for a Blind Man.

O LORD our God, thou art *light*, and there is no *darkness* at all ; thou hast created the *light* and the *sun*, and givest both power of *seeing* and objects to be *seen* : it is a pleasant thing to behold the *light* ; but of this sweet *benefit* thou hast thought fit to *deprive* thy servant. O blessed be thy name, even *to* as well as *giving*, for thou art wise, just, and good in all ; every thing that happens to us is of thy *appointment*, Lord of all, who made us, and mayest do what thou wilt of thy *own* ; yet there is no *unrighteousness* in God ; but whatever thou dost, is *meet* and to be done, tho' many of thy providential works are *darkness* to thy servant ; yea, I know thou art gracious in all that thou bringest upon us ; and canst bring the greatest good even out of the worst *evil* that befalls us ; thyself art infinitely better to all thy servants than their *eyes*, and all the things that their *eyes* *beheld*.

Thy servant here desires, with meekness and patience, to submit to thy heavy stroke ; confesses that thou art just in quenching the light of his *eyes*, which he did not use to ought to thy *glory*.

But wilt thou, O gracious Lord, in judgment remember *mercy* ; and bless to him this *afflicting* hand upon him, that it may pro-

his *repentance* and *peace* with God ; and may cut off all the occasions of worse *stumbling* and *falling*, than any whereto his present darkness may expose him ; that so many temptations, which enter in at the *eyes*, being taken away, he (freed from those *interruptions* and *distractions*) may better attend on the Lord, and be more intent upon the concerns of the *soul* ; and more curious and exact in looking *inward* to the things between God and his *heart* ; and in pressing after a better light than that which thou hast taken from him. Lord, as thou hast shewed thy *sovereignty* and justice, in taking away his *fight*, so let thy work of power and *mercy* be made manifest, both in ministering *comforts* to him, and enabling him contentedly and cheerfully to bear up under the loss ; and also making it up to him so much a better way, that he may be a gainer by it in his *spiritual* affairs, and what pertains to his *everlasting bliss*. O good God ! bring him out of the *sinful* darkness into thy marvellous light, that he may be light in the Lord, though he wants the light of this *world*.

O thou Father of lights. enlighten the eyes of his *understanding*, that he may see what is the hope of thy *calling*, and what the riches of the glory of thy inheritance in the *saints*, and what the mighty power of thy spirit which works in them that do *believe*. Now that he cannot behold the *temporal* things, O that he may be more earnest in looking after the unseen things which are *eternal* ; in looking to Jesus, and minding the things of his *peace* and studying
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the mysteries of *salvation*, and the wonders thy *love*, and the glories of thy *kingdom*. thou Giver of all *grace* ! give me the eye *faith*, and spiritual discerning, to see him that is *invisible*, whom no mortal eye hath seen can see. Gracious Lord, discover *thyself* still more and more to him, and reveal thy Son him, and teach and guide him, and enter into him with thoughts and considerations *pertinent* to his condition ; and let thy good spirit, as *counsellor* and *comforter*, still abide in him, and bring to his *mind*, and work upon his *heart*, things that shall make for his *edification* and encouragement in thy holy ways ; have compassion upon him, O Lord, and be gracious and kind to him, and do all that thou knowest *needful* and *good* for him, and lead him, and help him on continually, till in thy light he shall see light, and have his eyes *opened* the last to see the *splendor* of thy kingdom and all the *joy* of thy salvation ; yea, to see thy glorious *face*, to see thee as thou art, and to know as he is known in that *heavenly* presence of thine, where is *fulness* of joy ; there to ever with the Lord, and to enjoy thy sight and love, and blessed Self, world without end Amen.

A Prayer under grievous Pains.

O LORD, thou art a merciful God, and dost not afflict *willingly*, nor grieve the children of men but when the *necessity* of our case calls for sharp applications ; thou chastisest

us for our *profit*, that we may be partakers of thy *holiness*. Blessed is the man whom thou *chastenest*, O Lord, and teachest him out of thy law ! O that it may be in such *mercy* to the *soul* of thy servant, that thy hand is so *hard* upon him at present : now that thou hast cast him into the *furnace*, O that it may be a means to purge out his *dross*, and to fit him for thy acceptable use and *service*. O that he may learn such things in the *school* of affliction, as may stand him in stead, and do him *good* for ever.

But thou, O God of consolation, who knowest our *frame*, and how little it is that we can *endure*, though it be so much that we *deserve*, be pleased to remember him in mercy ; and make his sufferings less, or thy grace in him, and his patience and spiritual strength *greater* than all his sufferings. O take the load off him or lighten it to him, or enable him to *bear* what thou art pleased to lay upon him. Lord, all his desire is before thee, and his groaning is not hid from thee. O *regard* his affliction when thou hearest his *cry* ; and enter not into judgment with him according to the *desert* of his sins ; but according to thy *mercy* remember thou him, for thy goodness sake in Jesus Christ. O gracious Father, *sanctify* to him what thou hast laid upon him, that the present fore *evil* may have a comfortable issue, and work for his spiritual and eternal *good* ; and the Lord *support*, and bear him up under it, and bring him safe and *happily* out of it, to the

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rejoicing of thy servant, and to the *glory* of name ; and however thou shalt deal with him. O good Lord, suppress all his *repinings* at dealings, that he may not so sin as to charge God foolishly, who never dost the thing what is most *righteous* and fit to be done ; nothing but what thy servant shall once find cause to *bless* and praise thee for doing : teach and help him to glorify God in the time of his visitation, by his humble *submission* to thy will, his patient *abiding* of thy hand, and faithful *reformation* under it, that thou mayest return with the *visitations* of thy love, and refresh and ease and comfort to him, and shew him the way of thy salvation, for thy own mercy's sake Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer under dangerous Sickness.

O LORD God Almighty, and ever blessed in whom we all ever live, and move, and are ; we acknowledge it to be of thy mercy that we are not *consumed*, because thy compassions fail not. If thou hadst, long before this time cut us off in our sins, and shut us up under our final *despair* of thy mercy, yet righteous hast thou been, O Lord ; and how justly might thou now refuse to hear us calling upon thee in our *prayers*, as we so often have refused here thee calling upon us by the motions of thy Holy Spirit ; but thou art God, and not *man* ; and thy thoughts, are not as our thoughts, nor thy ways as our ways ; but as the *beats*

higher than the earth, ſo are thy thoughts
 & thy ways *above* ours. Thou art our refuge
 & ſtrength, and preſent help in time of *need*
 & *trouble* ; in which times thou haſt com-
 mended us to *call* upon thee, and haſt promiſed
hear us, and to give us cauſe to praiſe and
riſe thee for thy goodneſs and mercy to us.
 And now we come to thee, O Lord, our
 God, in behalf of this thy *ſervant*, that lies
 here in a low and *diſtreſſed* ſtate under thy
ſiſting hand. Look down, we beſeech thee,
 mercifully upon him ; and be thou gracious
 & favourable to him, according to the ne-
 ceſſities of his caſe, and according to the mul-
 titude of thy tender *mercies* in Chriſt Jeſus ; in
 great danger as he is, yet, if thou wilt, O
 Lord, thou canſt ſet him up, and make him
 whole : if thou but ſpeak the *word*, the *thing*
 ſhall be done. And in ſubmiſſion to thy moſt
 wiſe and good *diſpoſal* of all things, we would
 commend this *mercy* at thy hands, that thou wouldſt
 be pleaſed to rebuke his *diſtemper*, to remove
 the *ſtroke*, and cauſe the bitter *cup* which thou
 haſt given him to paſs away from him, and
 make him a way to *eſcape* out of the affliction
 that is upon him ; and to this end, that thou
 wouldſt direct to the means proper for his
 cure, and command a *bleſſing* upon them to
 promote his *recovery*. Spare him, good Lord,
 & *reſtore* him (if it be thy will) that he may
 live a long time to work out his ſalvation, and
 be more *uſeful* in his place, and do more *good*
 to his *generation* ; or however thou ſhalt be
 pleaſed

pleased to deal with him as to the concerns of his *body* (which we pray may be in a way of *gentleness* and tender mercy ;) yet, Lord, let his *soul* be ever precious in thy sight ; and make this *sickness* of his body be for the *health* of the immortal better part, to promote his *salvation* everlasting.

O give him a right discerning of the thing belonging to his *peace*, before they be hid from his eyes ; shew him what he is to do ; enable him for the doing of it, that he may have the found peace with God, through Jesus Christ ; give him the true *repentance* towards God, and the right *faith* in the only Saviour of the world ; wash and cleanse his soul with the *blood* of thy Son, and the graces of thy spirit, that it may be delivered from all *defilements* it has contracted in this present evil world, and be found safe and happy in the hour of *death*, and in the great *day* of our Lord Jesus Christ. Fit him O Lord, for living or *dying*, whatever in thy wise and righteous providence thou hast designed for him, that it may be unto him Christ to live, and *gain* to die ; that, in all, he may find cause to *glorify* thy name, still experiencing thy gracious *goodness* to him in the Son of thy love : if thou shalt please yet to release him from his bed of languishing, to live longer upon earth, O that he may live to thee in thy *fear*, and to thy *praise*, and do thee better service, and bring thee *greater* glory ; or, if thou hast determined that his sickness shall be a *sickness* unto death ; and this visitation his

last visitation, prepare him, O merciful God, by thy grace, for thy blessed Self; and grant him a safe and comfortable *passage* out of this wretched life, to an infinitely better, through the merits and mediation of thy beloved Son, our only Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer under lingering Sickness.

O GOOD God, thou hast long kept thy servant under thy chastening hand; thou hast made him *acquainted* with grief, and his sickness is become even his old *familiar* companion; yet, O blessed Lord, grant that we may not think it *long* to wait thy leisure, who art pleased to wait so long for the *return* of a sinner; and who art very pitiful and of tender *mercy*, having kind *intentions*, even in thy bitter dispensations; yea, chastenest whom thou *lovest*, and scourgest every *son* whom thou receivest. Teach him, O gracious Father, to see *love* in thy rod, as well as *justice* in all thy dealings, that he may *humble* himself under thy mighty hand, and also think it *good* for him to be afflicted; and patiently wait for the Lord, in hope of *good* out of this *evil*, and at last a happy *conclusion* of the long *visitation*. Blessed be thy name, O Father of mercies, that thou dost not pour out *all* thy wrath; but in *judgment* remember *mercy*, to make the affliction supportable, giving some ease and *relaxation* from torturing pains, and mingling many sweet *ingredients* with this bitter *cup*. O make him so sen-

sible of thy kindness and love, that he may be not only *contented*, but *thankful* under thy hand.

Yet, that his faith may not *fail*, nor his patience be *wearied* out, return, O Lord of love, at the last, and give thy servant a discharge from this warfare ; and say to the affliction, *It is enough*. Make him *glad*, according to the time wherein thou hast *afflicted* him, and wherein he has seen so much *adversity* : and till thou hast been pleased to remember him in such mercy, O grant that he may neither *despise* thy chastening, nor faint under thy rebukes ; but take all as he ought, and employ the *time* which thou lendest, and *improve* the affliction which thou continuest, as a *gracious opportunity* for his *soul's advantage* ; that under the decays of the *outer* man the *inner* may be renewed day by day ; and all that is wanting in his *spiritual* concerns may be filled up, and whatever pertains to his everlasting salvation promoted and *perfected*, through the riches of thy grace, and the multitude of thy mercies in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*A Prayer for one that is stupified, or
Light-headed.*

O THOU great *Maker* and *Preserver* of men, who knowest our *frame* and our *frailty*, how soon our *senses* may fail us, and our *understanding* depart from us ; to what accidents, distempers, and decays our weak *nature* is liable, even such as may make the most *acute* and *judicious* men quickly become as a child or idiot, and

and turn all our wisdom and *ingenuity* into folly and *frenzy*. We are every one of us in thy hands, O Lord, to be used as thou wilt ; to have our *speech* and *sense*, yea, our very *breath* and *life* taken away when thou pleasest. Thou art righteous in all that comes upon us ; and who shall say unto thee, What dost thou ? Yet, even in chastising and correcting, thou keepest a *measure*, and dost not forget thy *mercy* and *compassion*, nor drivest us away from the *throne of grace*, but biddest us call upon thee in our troubles, and art still *attentive* to the prayers of thy servants ; yea, *wailest* to be gracious, and wilt not let them seek thy face *in vain*. Hear us, O Father of *mercies*, we beseech thee ; and let thy mercy now be shewed to thy poor weak distempered *servant*, according to the *exigence* of his case, in the time of his *need*.

Thou, O God, all sufficient, who *createst* faculties, canst as easily *restore* them, and give light and understanding even to the *simple* ; and scatter all the *clouds*, and supply and rectify every thing that is *defective* and *amiss*. O that thou wouldest be pleased to shew thyself so *graciously* and *powerfully* in the present case, and repair the *breaches* made upon thy servant ; and give him *sense* and *apprehension* sufficient to discern the *state* of his soul, and to see the things of his *peace*.

Thou Lord Almighty, who didst command the *light* to shine out of *darkness*, and often bringest *order* and *beauty* even out of *confusion* and *deformity*, canst lighten the darkest mind,

inform the weakest *bead*, and regulate the wildest *imagination* ; yea, thou canst speak immediately to the *heart*, and incline and secure it to thyself ; and canst *convey* instruction, and all suitable relief, where the doors are *shut* up against us. O God of all power and love, wilt thou speak to the soul of thy servant, so that it may observe thy *voice* ; and seize that precious *jewel* for thy own, that it may be *safe* in thy hands. Lord, direct and quicken, help and assist him, where we cannot, and do the great work of *grace*, worthy of the wonder-working God, to effect salvation for him by thy own *self*, in the failure of *outward* means and applications. O have pity upon his *infirmities*, and be merciful to his mistakes and failings, his rovings and follies ; give him, gracious God, a *broken, penitent* heart, and a *believing, willing* mind ; and then accept him in thy beloved Son, according to what he *bath* ; and, of thy rich grace, make him an entrance into thy everlasting kingdom, where all the shadows being vanished and gone, he may see light in thy *light*, and joyfully give thee praise and glory to all *eternity*. Be gracious O good Lord, and *indulgent* to him ; and do all that thou knowest to be needful and good for him, through the mediation, and for the merits of him who took part of our *flesh* and *blood*, that he might be touched with the *feeling* of our infirmities ; and to thy mercy, in that our merciful and faithful *High Priest*, we commit this *infirm* member of *his mystical body*, beseeching thee, O blessed

Lord our God, to shew thyself unto him a compassionate and *tender* Father. in the same Jesus Christ our only Saviour. Amen.

A Prayer for a sick Child.

O GOD of the spirits of all flesh, the only Giver and Preserver of life in every living soul; the *smallest*, as well as the *greatest*, are thy *work* and thy *care*; and neither without the *compass* of thy providence, nor below the *notice* and regard of our heavenly Father, who though so great above all, yet *despise*th not any; O dear Lord, let thy thoughts be full of *pity* and *tender mercy* to this poor *sick child*, for whose affliction we are now concerned; and send him that relief and comfort from above, which none of us are able to give; either lighten the load, or encrease the strength to bear it; and deal gently and graciously with him, good Lord, beyond what we are worth to ask at thy hands, even for thy own goodness and mercy's sake. Spare him, O Father of *mercies*, and grant him *ease* and *release* from his trouble; yea, make *haste* to deliver him, we beseech thee; and in submission to thy *will* we beg the *recovery* of his health, and the continuance of his life, to be spent in thy *fear*, and to thy *praise*, that he may continue to do thee *service*, and bring thee *glory* in his days upon earth; but, forasmuch as children themselves, who are shapen in iniquity, and conceived in sin, are therefore subject to death, which reigns even over them that
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have not sinned, after the similitude of Ad transgression, if thou art pleased, Lord, to him away so *early*, O let it be in *mercy*, prepare him then so for thyself, that it may to him the greatest *gain* to die ; that he not only be delivered from the *miseries* and *gers* of this world, and that to come, but the quickest improvement, may be perfect *knowledge* and *grace*, and made *ripe* and *r* for heaven and eternal glory, through the nite satisfaction and merits of thy beloved our compassionate Saviour, who so kindly braced and blessed *young children*, and ever at thy right hand, to *intercede* for young old ; the only *prevailing* Advocate for us And to thy mercy in him, O most gra God, we commend this *afflicted child*, besee ing thee to deal well by him, and be good kind to him ; and out of the riches of thy g *provide* and do abundantly, as thou knowest best for him, in life and death, and for more. Amen.

A Prayer for a dying Man past Hope of Recov

O THE hope of Israel, the Saviour thou in time of *trouble* ! when all other help fail, it is not in vain to seek thee for *succour*, who canst bring back from mouth of the grave, and quicken the dead ; and where thou art not pleased further to prolong the *temporal life*, yet to *deliver* from *eternal death*, and bring safe to

blest *life everlasting* ; for the sake of which, no troubles or death should be thought too much to be *endured* ; if by any means we may attain to the joyful *resurrection* of the dead, and get safe to the heavenly *Canaan*, the land of the truly living, where death itself is swallowed up of life, and thy saints are above the danger of *dying* any more, and live full of joy to *everlasting* ages. We think it too late to beg the *recovery* of thy servant, O Lord, now that he seems to us going the way of all *flesh*, and justly *launching* forth into his everlasting condition ; but tho' the time of his departure appears to be at hand, yet we cannot think it too late to beg thy mercy for him, as long as his life is in him ; and as we cannot choose but be greatly concerned for him, so we know not how better to express this our *concern* for him, than in beseeching thee to be *good* and *gracious* to him.

O Lord our God, leave him not, nor forsake him, but support and assist him now in his sorest *extremities*, in his last *agonies*, when he is to conflict with the *King of Terrors* ; let him find the most sweet and seasonable *aids* from the Almighty God of his salvation, and take him not out of this *life* till thou hast fitted him for a *better*. O thou ever-living God, stand by him in the *dying hour*, and secure him in thy *hands* from the daily enemies of his *soul*, and finish all that is wanting of the work of thy *grace* upon his heart ; freely and fully pardon, and deliver him from all his *sins*, and accomplish him to appear with comfort and

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rejoicing in thy blessed *presence*. O make his departure easy, and full of peace and hope; carry him safe through the dark *passage*, upon which he is entering, and let him find it the *gate* of glory, and a door opened into the everlasting kingdom and joy of his Lord. Into thy hands, Lord, we commend his *spirit*; O thou *Father of mercies*, be merciful to him, and *receive* his departing soul; and when he is numbered among the *dead*, let him be also numbered among the *redeemed* and *blessed* of the Lord, for his sake, who himself died for sinners, and *rose* again, and lives, and is alive for evermore, and has the *keys* of death and hell. To thy mercy, in that blessed Saviour of the world, O most merciful Father, we now humbly *recommend* him: beseeching thee to be *all in all* to him, and infinitely better than we are worthy or able to ask for him; and let him be *thine* in life and death, and for evermore, through the all-sufficient merits and mediation of thy dear Son, our most prevailing Advocate and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer upon the News of other's Death.

O LORD, the ever-living and all-disposing God, in whose hands our *breath* is, and at whose call we must all be gone out of this *world* and our place here will be no more *found*! O what is man, every man living, even at his best estate, but altogether *vanity*! What *man* is he that liveth, and shall not see *death*?

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great and the mean, the wise and the
good and bad, all yield up the *ghost*,
down to the *grave*. Thou art pleased,
God, to give the advantage of seeing
my neighbours and acquaintance, taken
to their *long home* before me, and leavest
standing the living *monument* of thy
deaths ; with these opportunities to appear
before thee, in that day of grace, which,
through the forbearance of my God, is yet
mine. O what am I better than all my
sins and brethren, that I should be *exempted*
from the common *portion* of all men living,
when it is appointed to all men once to *die* :
I am as sure of my own *dying* as if I were
already *dead* ! O let me not be as the *brutes*
have no understanding, without *mindfulness*
of my mortality, or *consideration* of my lat-
itude ; but in the *death* of others, let me
be as in a *glass*, my own frail and uncertain
condition in the present world ; how *slippery* is my
standing, and how soon I must *follow all* the
multitudes that are gone before me out of
this world and of the *living*. O let me make full
account of it, and so *live* as one that surely
stands to *die*, that when my own *turn* shall
come, I may not go off with a *heavy* heart, but
depart in *peace*, and sleep in Jesus, having my
soul safe in thy *hands*, and my body resting
in the hope of gloriously *rising* at the last day ;
through him who is the *resurrection* and the
our blessed Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus
Christ. Amen.

T

A Prayer

A Prayer upon the Death of our dear Friends.

GREAT God, the Lord of all, thou dost whatsoever thou pleasest in heaven and in earth; and who may call in *question* any thing which thou dost? Thou givest and takest away, raisest and dashest our hopes, sendest and destroyest our comforts, and thou art *wise* and *righteous*, and *good* in all; 'tis *just* we should be deprived of the *enjoyments* which we nothing but slight and abuse; yea, 'tis *good* for us to have those things taken from us, which our abuse makes *hurtful* to us: blessed be thy name, then, even when thou *takest* away, as well as when thou *givest*; yet, O Lord, who art justly displeased for our sins, in mercy turn these *losses* to the advantage of my *soul*, and so *repair* the breaches out of thy own infinite fulness, that I may find thy own blessed Self unto me more and *better* than many (even such) *friends* and *comforters*; they were but the *instruments* and means of conveyance; thou the eternal *spring* and fountain of all good, art still the same, and amidst all these changes, never *changeest* at all; and what thou didst derive to me by such *means*, thou canst more than make out to me another way.

O my heavenly Father, take my eyes, and heart, and hope of such poor *dying* comforts, to fix them upon the only *satisfying* good; in the enjoyment of which consists all my true life, and peace and bliss; and let the good *emptiness*
and

I frequent *disappointments* that I find in all comforts of *creatures*, and all the enjoyments of the *world*, teach me more wisdom to place my *affections* and *dependance* upon *him*; and help to *disengage* and loosen my heart from them, and raise up my *desires* and *eyes* to the glorious permanent *objects* so infinitely to be preferred before them. O let me more *crucified* to the world, where is nothing but emptiness and frustration, *vanity* and *vexation* of spirit; and may I have my conversation more in *heaven*, where is my blessed Lord, and his happy *followers*, of whom the world was not worthy, and every thing that the soul of man can *want* or *wish*. O God of the *spirits* of all flesh, especially of the *just* made *perfect*, help me so to follow thy servants, my friends parted in the Lord, that I, with them, may *remain* at last, to live in the sight and presence, the love and praises, and in the fellowship and enjoyment of thee, my God, blessed forever. Amen.

A Prayer for Patience.

MY God! thou knowest what an *evil* world we live in, which I help to make still worse by my *sins*; and I that have done so little *good*, and so much *evil*, must not look for all *good*, and no *evil* at the hands of God. O world, thou hast told us we shall have *tribulation*; and O that my *tribulation* may work *patience*, that I may go away contented with

the *load* thou hast been pleased to lay upon me, and still possess my soul in patience, however tried by *corrections* from thy hand, or by injuries from the hands of men ; to blame the instrument, or complain of thy providence, under the pressures lying upon me, will but torment, and break myself to pieces, and still add to that which I count so *grievous* to endure. O let me better provide for my own ease, as well as duty, than so to disquiet myself in vain ; and whatever thou dost with me, O Lord, let me be *dumb*, and not open my mouth to reply or murmur, because it is *thy doing* ; make me to acquiesce and rest satisfied, even in the *bitterest* dispensations of thy good providence ; *contented* with such things as I have, and patient in the want of such comforts as I have not : and when nothing but trouble and sorrow is my portion, (had I what my sins deserve) O let me not be *querulous* and forward, forasmuch as thou dealest not with me after my *sins*, nor rewardest me according to my *iniquities* ; but may I patiently *encounter* all difficulties and grievances in my *passage* through this weary troublesome world, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in my *brethren* that are in the world ; and it is but the *common* lot of all poor sinful *mortals* here upon earth. O make me patient to the *coming* of the Lord ; enduring all grievous things with a *meek* and *quiet* spirit, seeing they are *happy* that *endure* ; and such as *endure* to the *end* shall be saved : O my Lord, let no pains or sufferings ever
dine

drive me from thee, but rather be a means to bring me *nearer* to thee ; and let the remembrance of the great *day* of the Lord, and the eternal state of the world to *come*, work in me a contempt of this *world*, mortification of my *lusts*, and patient abiding of the *cross* ; seeing it is of so little consideration, what we do enjoy or endure here for a *short season*, so that we be delivered from the *wrath* to *come*, and it may go well with us *for ever*. O let me, by *patient* continuance in well-doing, seek for glory and honour, and immortality, and count nothing in this world either *dear* to possess, or *intolerable* to suffer ; so that I may finish my course with *joy*, and at the last *rest* from all my labours and troubles, with the *redeemed* and *blest* of the Lord ; which I wait and beg for at thy good hands, O my gracious Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Preparation and Readiness to Die.

L ORD, what is our life but a *vapour* that appears for a little time, and then *vanisheth* away ! even at the longest, how *short* ; and at the strongest, how *frail* ! and when we think ourselves most *secure*, yet we know not what a *day* may bring forth, to turn us out of all ; nor how soon thou mayest come, before we are *aware*, to call us to our last *account*. Quickly shall we be as *water* spilt on the ground, that cannot be gathered up again : quickly snatched away from hence, and our *place* here shall know

us no more for ever ; our days, one after another, are spent apace, and we know not how near to us is our *last* day, when our bodies shall be laid up in the *grave*, and our souls called to appear at the *tribunal* of God, to receive our standing *doom*, for bliss or *woe* eternal. Yet, O good God, how have I lived in this world, as if I should never leave it ! how *unmindful* of my latter end ! how *improvident* of my time ! how careless of my soul ! how *negligent* in my preparation for my everlasting condition ! so that thou mayest justly bring my last hour as a *snare* upon me, to *surprize* me in my sins, and my unpreparedness to appear before thee. But, O dear Father of *mercies*, remember not my sins against me ; but remember thy own tender mercies, and thy loving-kindnesses which have been ever of old. O remember how *short* my time is, and *spare* me, that I may recover my strength before I go thence, and be no more *seen* ; make me so wise as to understand and consider my *latter* end, and to remember also (myself) the *shortness* of my time ; and teach me so to *number* my days, that I may apply my heart to the true *wisdom*. Lord, what have I to do in this world, but to make ready for the world to come. O that I may be *mindful* of it, and *intent* upon it, to finish my *work*, before I finish my *course* !

In the days of my *health* and *peace*, and *prosperity*, O that I may remember, and provide for the time of *trouble* and *sickness*, and *death*, when the world's enjoyment shall *shrink* away from

from me, and prove utterly unable to *support* and *help* me. O let me never allow myself in any course of *living* wherein I would be loth or afraid to *die* ; but let me see my sins die before me, that they may never rise up in *judgment* against me, and enable me so to die unto them *daily* that I may not die for sin *eternally*. Instruct me, good Lord, and assist me in my great work of preparation for a *dying hour*, that I may not then be dreadfully surprized, but meet it with *courage* and *comfort*. O gracious God, shew me how to do it : quicken me into a serious *concernment* about it, and help me with good success to perform it, that I may be fitted for *heaven* ere I leave this *earth*, and may have the sound peace with God, through Jesus Christ, before I depart hence into the state, where I must abide *for ever*. O, my Lord, make me so *ready* to meet thee at thy coming, that thy coming may be the matter of my *hopes* and *desires*, and joyful *expectations*, that I may love the *appearance* of Christ, who is my *life*, and long for that blessed time, when thou wilt put an everlasting *period* to all my sins and troubles, and temptations here, and *exchange* my present being in the *body*, to be ever with the Lord. O my *strength*, help me so to *live*, as, at the hour of *death*, I shall wish that I had *lived*, and so to make ready for *death* all my days, that at my last day I may have nothing to do but to die, and cheerfully *resign* my spirit into thy gracious hands, O my Father, and find a merciful

admission to thy favour, and to thy *kingd*
for the sake of my only Saviour Jesus Chi
Amen.

A Prayer in public Commotions and Distractio

ALMIGHTY Lord, the righteous Go
thy judgments are in all the *earth*; *i*
it is no wonder if this *wicked* world should
also a *troublesome* world, where *wars* and *rumo*
of wars are abroad, and the *sword* is mak
havock among the nations; and though
have hitherto been kept from such wast
calamities as have swept away *multitudes* of
brethren, yet thou, for our sins, hast n
broken the kingdom, and made it *tremble*:
heal the *breaches* of it, for it shaketh. *A*
have no *sanctuary* to fly to for refuge, but t
mercy of thine, O good God, which we ha
so much and so often *abused* and *despised*; *i*
any *help* from trouble, but what we seek
thy *bands*, who for our sins art justly displeas
O thou that *waitest* to be gracious, and wh
mercy endureth for ever, have compassion
us, and spare us good Lord: *spare* thy peo
whom thou hast *redeemed* with thy preci
blood, and still *signalized* with thy wonder
mercies; and turn us again, O Lord God
hosts; cause thy *face* to shine, and we sh
be *saved*. O make us a way to escape out
those *fears* and *dangers* wherein our sins ha
involved us, that *peace* may be restored, a
the *gospel* of peace in much mercy contin

us in our posterity, as long as the world
 dures. O that we may learn *righteousness* by
 judgments, and not dare to go on in our
basses and *rebellions* against thee, when thou
 : a *controversy* with us, and art making *in-*
ition for blood amongst us ; but let us fo
 n to thee in the way of our *duty*, that thou
 yest turn to us in a way of saving *mercy* ;
 seeing this is not our *rest*, and little but
 ms and commotions, and one deep calling
 another, is to be expected in this uncertain
 ultuous *world*, O that we may have our
 s further than the *ends* of the earth, and
 them up to the Lord, from whom cometh
help, and seek the *continuing* city to come,
 lay up our rest and our treasure in that
 dom which cannot be *moved* ; that we may
 ose the good part which shall not be taken
 n us, and *flee* from the wrath to come, and
 e *peace* in our Lord, and hope in our death ;
 n the hope of that *eternal life*, which is thy
 mise and gift, O blessed God, through
 is Christ. Amen.

I Prayer in Time of threatening Dangers.

¶ GREAT God, holy and just ! I am amazed
 ¶ and *terrified* to think of the dreadful
 ges which my sins have deserved ; fearfulness
 trembling are come upon me, and my
 it is *overwhelmed*, and my heart *fails* me
 fear, so that I know not what to do ; but
 eyes are upon *thee*, my great Saviour and

mighty Deliverer, to give me that help which from man 'tis *vain* to expect ; and at this time that I am afraid, I will trust in thee ; and under the shadow of thy *wings* make my refuge, till these *calamities* be over-past. O my Lord, take me to thy fatherly *care*, and thy Almighty *protection*, and save me from the hands of my *enemies*, and from feeling the *evil* which I fear to come upon me : O dispel the *clouds*, and turn away the *storms*, and clear up the *face* of heaven, so *blackened* now over our heads. Thou, O Lord, that knowest how to deliver, and never art at a loss to effect what thou wilt, *command* deliverances for me, I beseech thee ; and be not far from me when trouble seems so nigh to me, but let me find thy *help* at hand, in this time and case of my *need*.

O my God, thou hast been a *shelter* for me, and a strong *tower* of defence from the enemy ; and though I walk in the midst of trouble, thou wilt *receive* me ; thou wilt stretch forth thy hand upon my *enemy*, and thy right hand shall save me. O my Saviour, I fly to thee to *hide* me ; be thou pleased to defend me from them that rise up against me ; consider the trouble that I suffer of them that hate me, and lead me in thy righteousness because of my enemies ; make thy way straight before my face. Deliver me, O Lord, from the *evil* and *violent* man, and from my *persecutors* that are stronger than I. O let not any that are my *enemies* wrongfully rejoice over me ; but shew

some token for good that they who hate
 may see it, and be *ashamed*, because thou
 hast holpen and *comforted* me. O fortify
 against that *fear* of any men which would
 rify me out of my *duty* to thee, my God ;
 me never be so *awed* by them as to make
 ld with thee, and *trespass* upon thee, to
 ape them, or to *ingratiate* myself with them.
 thou hast been my help, be thou pleased to
 me in now to my *succour*, and shew thyself
 aciously and powerfully on my behalf Do
 Lord, for the glory of thy *name*, for the
 trits of thy Son, and for thy own *mercy's*
 se, that I may see thy *hand*, and praise thy
 wer, and admire thy *love*, and adore thy
 ace and *goodness*, while I have my being.
men, Amen.

Prayer upon the Remembrance of former Sins.

WHO can understand his *errors* ! Who
 can call to mind the innumerable *offences*
 all his life ! when, ever since we could do
 y thing, alas ! what have we done that is
 e from *sin* ! but, O the *heinous* offences, the
presumptuous sins, the great transgressions where
 have been guilty, which stare me in the face,
 d recoil upon my heart, and cast down my
 d within me ; because I have committed
 em with so many foul *aggravating* circum-
 nces against such light and love, means and
 ercies, calls and warnings, convictions, and
 periences, and all the sundry and mighty

obligations from the Lord which I have but I am covered with *confusion*, O my God, filled with bitter *remorse*, and ghastly *fear* often as I look back upon such *blots*, and *scandals*, of my life. O if they should up in the *judgment* against me, they could but utterly *sink* and *ruin* me. But Lord, my help me so to *remember* that thou mayest *justify* them; so to charge them upon *myself* that thou mayest never lay them to my *charge*; so to *present* them before my *eyes*, to abase and humble my *soul*, that thou mayest hide thy *face* from my *sin*, and blot out all my iniquities; especially those that are so *confounding* and *terrible* to my *thoughts*. O let me ever walk humbly before thee, seeing I have so shamefully sinned against thee; and though thou hast kept me from deserved *shame* in this world, O let not *indulgence* embolden me to *repeat* or *slight* my *wickedness*; but let this thy *goodness*, O God, work in me a more deep and *severe* *repentance*.

And thou, Lord Almighty, who alone canst bring good out of evil, be thou please make my past *falls* an occasion of my *standing* for the future. O *embitter* the pleasure of sin to me, and *hedge* up the ways of wisdom (as with *briars* and *thorns*) before me, that I may *loath* as much as ever I have loved the offensive things, and never return again to such *jolly*. O let the *flames* wherewith I have been scorched, *terrify* me from being any more so concerned, and let the sense and remembrance

ance of all the *former* offences of my life sicken and awaken me, as into the deeper *penitance* for them, so into the more careful *circumspection* and watchfulness against them, that I may not be so *strange* to thee, my God,

I have been, nor *trespass* upon thee, and rebel against thee as I have done, but pass the time of my sojourning here in *fear*, and be more *under*, and *wary*, and *vigilant*, all the days of my life. Amen, Amen.

| *Prayer under Fears and Doubts of our spiritual Condition.*

O LORD my God, I hope thou hast, of thy rich mercy, changed and renewed me in some measure, and wrought a *good work* upon me, bring me out of my natural and *damnable* condition, into the state of grace and *salvation*; but yet the carnal nature is so *predominant* over me, and many sins so *lively* and *strong* in me, and still I find the good things of thy spirit in much weakness and *imperfection* upon me, that the sorrows of my heart are enlarged, and my soul is *disquieted* within me, seeing too frequent cause to question, whether my *spots* are the spots of thy *children*; whether I have known the grace of God in *truth*, and whether I do not *deceive* myself, in reckoning upon that which I neither *am* or *have*.

Mine eyes are to thee, O God the Lord, have not my soul *desitute*. From the ends of the earth will I cry to thee: when my heart

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is *overwhelmed* within me, lead me to the *rock* that is higher than I. O Lord rebuke me not in thy *anger*, neither chasten me in thy fore *displeasure*. Forsake me not, O my God ; be not far from me : make haste to help me, O Lord my salvation. Attend to my *cry*, for I am brought very *low* ; here me speedily, my spirit *fails*. Save me, O God, for the waters are come into my *soul* ; I sink in the deep *mire*, where there is no standing. Bring my soul out of *prison*, that I may praise thy name.

O shew me the true *estate* of my soul, and make me to know the things that are freely given me of God ; and deliver me gracious Lord, from all those *offensive matters* that provoke thee to hide thy face from me, and that wrap up my soul in *clouds* and *darkness*, and make me so much a stranger to *peace* and *comfort*. O grant me a clear discovery of the *evidences* of my calling and election ; and seal a comfortable *assurance* of thy blessed love in Christ Jesus to my soul. O thou that didst bid the winds and waves, *Peace, be still*, and they obeyed thee ; settle my *discomposed* mind, and quiet my *troubled* breast, and bring me to see the *light* of thy countenance, and the *joy* of thy salvation. O thou that art of power to establish us, be pleased to establish my heart with *grace*, and let me be rooted and grounded in the *faith*, that I may not stagger through *unbelief*, but hold the beginning of my confidence *steadfast* to the end. *Rejoice* the soul of thy servant ; for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul ;

and

and let the joy of the Lord be my *strength*, to make me *victorious* over my sins, and always to abound in thy work ; never pleased so much with any thing as to do the thing pleasing to my God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer under the Dread of God's Wrath, and everlasting Damnation.

O LORD, the great and *dreadful* God, against whom I have greatly sinned ! and who for my sins art justly displeased ; when I consider the *holiness* of thy laws, and the *strictness* of thy justice ; and when I reflect upon the *heinous* and *innumerable* sins of my heart and life, my flesh *trembles* for fear of thee, and I am afraid of thy *judgments*. O who may stand in thy sight, when once thou art *angry* ! who can bear up for ever under all the *vials* of thy *wrath*, to the uttermost poured out, when thy mercy shall be clean *gone*, and thou shalt cast off, and shew favour *no more* ! yet even that *damnation* would be my woeful *portion*, which I could no more *avoid* than *abide*, shouldst thou, O Lord, enter into *judgment* with me, and proceed as thou mightest against me, I could then hope for no better, but to be deprived of all the *comforts* of this life, and to be delivered into the bitter *pains* of eternal death. But though the *wages* of my sins be that *death*, yet the *gift* of God is *eternal life*, through Jesus Christ our Lord. O for his dear sake, who has *satisfied* thy justice, and appeased thy

wrath for all our offences, even thy Son, who was delivered up into the hands of *sinners*, that he might deliver us from the *wrath* to come, and suffered and died *once*, that we might not suffer and die *for ever* ; O God, the Father of heaven, have mercy upon me, a miserable sinner ; and *from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation, good Lord deliver me*, and help me in the fear of thee, my God, to *flee* from the wrath to come, and to rid my hands and my heart of every *curst* thing that provokes the Lord to *kill* and cast sinners into *hell*.

O thou blessed Saviour of the world, save me from my *sins*, and from all their dismal *effects*, and *reconcile* me to God, and make my peace, through the blood of thy *cross*. Thou tookest upon thee our mortal nature, that thou mightest, through *death*, destroy him who had the *power* of death, and deliver them, who through *fear* of death, were all their life time subject to *bondage*. Have compassion, Lord, I beseech thee, on my *infirmities*, and suffer me not to fall a prey to my own fears, but be *surety* for thy servant, to undertake for all my heavy *scores*, wherein I have run myself in *arrears*, to the justice of heaven ; and give me everlasting *consolation*, and good *hope*, through grace, and being justified by *faith*, O let me have *peace* with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Hide not thy *face* from me, O my Lord, lest I be like to them that go down into the *pit* ; but revive my *soul* with the *sense* of thy love, and the hopes of thy full absolu-
tion.

ion, and everlasting salvation, that I may give thee thanks from the *ground* of the heart, and shew with gladness what thou hast done for my *redeemed* soul and joyfully sing thy *praise*, and keep in thy *love*, looking for the *mercy* of our Lord Jesus Christ to *eternal life*. Amen.

A Prayer under strong Temptations.

HOLY God! I desire to humble myself here before thee, for that continual *proneness* which is in me to sin against thee, that I am so unlike to thee, and so *contrary* to what thy holy laws require me to be. After all the great things thou hast done for me, alas! how apt am I still to *spoil* and *undo* myself! The malicious *tempter* is laying snares for me every where; and the things of this *world* are still pressing hard upon me, either to *terrify* me out of my *duty*, or to *humour* me into my *ruin*. And O how ready is my sinful *flesh* to side with the cruel enemy against my own *soul*! Innumerable *evils* have compassed me about; My *iniquities* have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to *look up*; they are more than the hairs of my head, therefore my heart *gails* me. O the sin that still *dwelleth* in me, that is so nigh to me, that does so easily *beset* me, and is so apt to *prevail* against me, to pull me away from the *obedience* of thy blessed will, and to engage me in *forbidden* things, displeasing in thy sight, and destructive to my *soul*! O *wretched* man that I am, who shall deliver me

from the body of this *death* ? when the *custom* of sinning has so increased my sinful *inclinations*, that the *leopard* may as soon change his *spots*, and the *Ethiopian* his *skin*, as I who am *accustomed* to evil can (of myself) *cease* from it, if the Lord of *hosts* be not with me : if the God of Jacob be not my refuge.

But with thee, the Almighty God, all things are *possible* ; yea, thou canst as easily *make* us *holy* as *bid* us be so. To thee the very powers of *hell* are weakness ; nothing in the world can *resist* thy will. O pity thy poor *tempted* creature, and give me not up, in justice, to a *reprobate* sense, and to *vile* affections, nor to such *blindness* of mind and *hardness* of heart, as should render me past *feeling* ; nor ever punish my *former* sins, by giving me over to their *sway* and *power* ; but let it be thy gracious pleasure, O Lord, that all my prevailing iniquities may flee and perish at thy presence. O give out the commanding word to those filthy corruptions, *Hitherto shall ye go and no further*. Speak *death* to my sins, that my soul may *live*, and for ever bless thy name. Stop and heal the *running sores*, that they may no more break out, as they have done, to the dishonour of thy *name* the wounding of my *conscience*, and hindering the concerns of my own and others present *peace*, and eternal *bliss* ; yea, so sanctify my nature, O Lord, and renew me, even in the *spirit* of my mind, that my heart may rise against the sinful *evils*, and that I may *hate* all iniquity, and every false way ; so resisting the
devil

evil, that I may not *conspire* with the deadly enemy of *souls* to *undo* myself. O give me power from on *high*, to set me above the power of my sins ; and give me grace *sufficient* to turn my heart against the *love* of my sins, that I may not be false in thy *covenant*, nor false to my own chief *interest*, but manfully fight thy *battles*, and approve myself thy faithful *soldier* and servant to my life's end ; that being so faithful until *death*, thou mayest give unto me the crown of *life*, and take me at last from this *warfare* to *reign* with thee, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer for Chastity.

O GOD of infinite *purity*, thou hast called us, not to *uncleanness*, but to *holiness* ; thou hast commanded us to be *holy* as thou art *holy* ; and hast promised to none but the *pure* in *heart* to see and enjoy thee in the *beauties* of holiness, and the *joys* above. O now shall I, a *polluted* wretch, shew myself before thy heavenly Majesty, who art perfect *purity* ; and in whose sight even *heaven* itself is not clean. O most gracious Lord ! look not upon me as I am in myself, and as I through my sins have made myself *vile*, even in my own *eyes* ; for then thou canst not choose but abhor my soul, and pour out all thy *wrath* upon me ; but wash me thoroughly from my iniquity ; and *cleanse* me from all my *sin* and guilt in that *fontain* opened for sin and for *uncleanness*, the precious

precious blood of the Lamb of God, slain to take away the *sins* of the world. Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me *clean* : O create a clean *heart* in me, and say to my sin-defiled soul as thou didst to the leper, *I will, be thou clean*, and I shall be *cleansed* and fitted now for thy holy *service*, and hereafter for thy heavenly *glory*. O my God ! cast the *unclean* spirit out of thy *temple* ; and if he will not go out but by *prayer* and *fasting*, let me add such *abstinence* to my prayers, as may help to *starve* the fleshly *lusts* that war against my soul : and by any means help me (my strength and my Redeemer) to possess my *vessel* in sanctification and honour ; not in the *lust* of concupiscence, as those that know not God. Holy Lord chase away the *birds* of prey that would devour thy *sacrifice* ; and drive out these unclean *beasts* that would trample down the *plantation* of thy grace in my *soul*. O let me not live after the *flesh*, lest I eternally *die* ; but by the spirit so *mortify* the deeds of the body, that I may for ever *live* ; instead of doing the *works* of the flesh, let me hate the very *garment* spotted with it ; and not without detestation once name the filthy *lusts*. Help me, my God, to avoid every *occasion* of falling, and to abstain from all *appearance* of evil, and so to delight in *purity*, and to keep myself from my *iniquity* that I may lead the noble spiritual life as becomes the *child* of my heavenly Father ; and not *grieve* thy Holy Spirit, O God, but be *pleasing* in thy *blessed* sight, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer

Prayer for the Mortification of all fleshly Lusts.

I HAVE vowed and promised unto thee, my God, to *renounce* all the sinful lusts of *flesh*, and am devoted as *holy* to the Lord ; having put on Jesus Christ, I should not see provision for the *flesh* to fulfil the *lust* thereof, but cleanse myself from all filthiness flesh and spirit, *perfecting* holiness in the law of God ; but though I have some *delight* in the law of God, after the inner man ; yet I find another law in my *members*, warring against the law of my *mind*, bringing me into *subjection* to the law of *sin*, which is in my *members* ; and this I acknowledge and bewail thee, O Lord Almighty ! who alone canst make me *free* from the lusts that are too hard for

O help me, Lord God of my salvation, in the *power* of these prevailing iniquities,

purge away all my sins for the glory of thy name ; may the time past of my life suffice to me, as I have served my own *lusts* and pleasures. O let

sin any longer reign in my mortal *body*, but I should obey it in the lusts thereof, but give me, Lord, to cut off the *right hand*, and pluck out the *right eye*, to keep under my *body*, and to bring it into *subjection*, that I may be the *master* of my lusts, and *overcome* the lusts that have so often overcome me. O mor-

and destroy in me every *rebellious* motion, every *vicious* inclination that exalts itself in the *gospel* and *government* of Christ Jesus ;

that gives Satan advantage over me, and renders my Saviour from reigning as a King preme in my *heart*.

Preserve me, Lord most holy, from *sinful* pleasures that would make me forgetful of the *heavenly* pleasures which are at thine hand for evermore. O let me not leave *secular* life, minding the things of the *present* age, as they were the only *esteemed* and *beloved* things, but make me so *spiritually minded*, that I may have above all things, favour and relish the presence of the Spirit of God. Let not sinful *lust*, but thy heavenly *spirit* and *grace* have the predominancy in my soul, to govern my *heart* and *life*; especially the *sinful* lusts to which I am most strongly inclined, and which I am most effectually *subdued*. O let me not yield to the miserable *slave* of my soul-running passions, but carry myself as the wife and faithful *lower* of my heavenly Lord and Saviour, as thou who hast called me art *holy*, and make me holy in *disposition*, and in all my *conduct*; such a lover and follower of *holiness* that I may *see* and *enjoy* the Lord. O gird me with might to that spiritual *conflict* wherein I am engaged; not only against *flesh* and *blood* enemies, but *eternal* foes, too strong for me to deal with, (through Christ strengthening me) I may *conquer* and to *conquer* all that will stand against thy glory, and my salvation, till Satan lie *under* my feet; that nothing may be able to *separate* me from the love of God, who is in Christ Jesus my Lord. Amen.

A Prayer before the Hearing of God's Word.

O MOST blessed Lord, the God of all grace, who art pleased to send out thy *light* and thy *truth* among us, both to *discover* our sins unto us, and also to make the way of life and salvation *plain* before us ; be thou pleased also to send the *spirit* of thy Son into our hearts, that he who is the *author* may also be the *interpreter* of thy word, to make it plain to our *understanding*, to set it home powerfully upon our *hearts*, and to render it the savour of life unto our *souls*. The Lord open our ears, and quicken our attention to receive what shall be delivered from thy *word* with carefulness and meekness, and with all readiness and gladness, and love and delight in it, and desire to come on and *grow* by it ; and strengthen our *memories* to treasure up and *retain* what we hear, that we may not let it slip, without making our benefit of it, and being the *better* for it. O gracious God ! teach us to *profit*, and make our *improvements* more answerable to those *means* of grace, which through thy mercy we do enjoy. Let the word which shall sound in our *ears* also sink down into our *hearts*, and take root in our *souls*, and produce and shew the fruits of it in our *lives*, that we may not be forgetful *bearers*, but faithful *doers* of thy holy word. O let the immortal *seed* of this heavenly word, beget such *principles* of grace and holiness in our hearts, that may be in us as a well.

A Prayer

well of water, springing up to *everlasting life*. Make us so obedient to thy holy *precepts*, that we may also inherit the glorious *promises* of thy word. O let our teachers be taught of God; and direct the *stewards* of thy mysteries to give unto every one their *portion* in due season; yea, give, Lord, the heavenly *benediction* and *increase* upon the *planting* and *watering* of thy servants, and make the waters of thy sanctuary *healing* to our souls; yea, make thy word as *fire* in the mouths of thy messengers, and set home the *sword* of the spirit with thy *own* hand, making it mighty through God, to the pulling down of strong *holds*, and subduing all *oppositions* to the obedience of Christ. O let thy *spirit* cause thy *word* to do thy great and gracious *work*, effectually upon all our *hearts*, for which we may have reason to give thee *praise* and *glory*, to all eternity. Amen.

A Prayer after hearing of the Word.

WE bless thee, O Lord, the living God, who holdest our souls in life, and providest for them the *bread of life*, that food of thy holy *word*, by which we live more and better than by our *daily bread*. It has now been delivered and received; but the *blessing* is in thy hands, O gracious God, to make it prosperous and successful to the gaining and saving of *souls*. O wilt thou be pleased to send it home to the *heart*, and there make it to *stand* and *abide*, till it has done thy will, and wrought

work, to build us up in the *faith* of Christ, and to set us forward in all *holiness* of life ; to make every *bearer* such a *doer* of thy word, that we may be all blessed now in our *deed*, and hereafter for ever blessed in the *joy* of our word.

O that all who have been *convinced* of their sin may also be *converted* to thyself, that they may not only *think* of the holy *change*, but *solve* upon it, and go *through* with it ; and that thy blessed spirit so prevail with them, that the *good motions* may not go off before they have perfected the work of *grace* in them. O make thy word *mighty* through God, to plant thy *grace* where it is not ; to *increase* it where it is, and to *guide* and *govern* all our *hearts* and *lives* in thy holy ways, that the *word* which we hear may do us *good*, and still bring us *nearer*, and make us *liker* to our God ; that we may find our *knowledge* and our *faith* not only to *come*, but to *grow* by hearing, and may so *bear* that our souls may *live* ; now live the holy life of *grace* and hereafter the blessed life of *glory*, for evermore. Amen.

A Prayer for Increase of Grace.

O GOD of all *grace*, who both quickenest the *dead*, and after thou hast given *life*, livest the *increase*. Thy people go from strength to strength, growing in *grace*, till they appear before thee in *glory* ; and the path of the just is as the *shining light*, shining more and more

to the *perfect* day. But O Lord, how barren and unfruitful have I been among the *trees* of righteousness ! and how little have I made my profiting and progress appear under all thy gracious *means*, and abundant *mercies* ; yea, how weak and low am I still in my *spiritual* estate ! O how small is my *will* and *strength* to that which is good ! how much am I behind many of thy *servants*, who have not had the helps and advantages which I so long have enjoyed ! and how little is it to be seen in my *life* what great things the Lord has done for my *soul* ! O my God, I have not well improved the *talents* which thou hast put into my hands, nor answered the *care* and *kindness* of heaven which I have so long experienced. Thou hast not been wanting to me, O good Lord ! but I have been exceedingly wanting to myself, and to that *duty* which I owe to my God. I am ashamed that it is no *better* with me ; that so many mercies have been spilt and lost upon me. Forgive me, O my Father, and repair thy holy *image* in me, who have so much dishonoured thee, and disabled and spoiled myself. O help me still more and more, to put off the *old* man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts ; and to put on the *new*, which, after God, is created in righteousness and true holiness. Whatever else I want, Lord, deny me not thy *grace*, but *increase* it in me, and discover it still *more* and *more* upon me ; yea, let the *graces* of thy spirit, that accompany salvation, so flourish in my soul, that the peace

f God, which passeth all understanding, may keep my heart and mind, through Christ Jesus.

Blessed Saviour ! who camest into the world that we might have *life*, and have it more *abundantly*, of thy fulness let me receive grace *sufficient* for me, to make me *strong* in the Lord, and *ready* to every good work. My life, my strength and my Redeemer ! leave me not under the curse of *barrenness*, to stand at a *stay*, or to *decline* in my spiritual estate ; but as thou hast wrought all my works in me, *stablish*, O God, that which thou hast wrought for me, and *strengthen* the things which remain that are ready to *die*, and cherish all the seeds of grace sown in my heart, that my soul may *prosper* and increase with the increase of God, as a watered *garden*, and as a *spring* whose waters fail not ; *growing* in knowledge and grace, and abounding in all those fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God, that so I may be fully satisfied of the *truth* of thy grace in me, by its *growing* upon me. O my Lord ! carry on with *power* the work of faith and sanctification in my soul, that my sinful corruption, every day (like the house of Saul) may grow *weaker* and *weaker* ; and thy *grace* in me, every day, (like the house of David) may grow *stronger* and *stronger*, till from *groaning* under sin, the body of this *death*, come to *triumph* over all that opposes and hinders the progress of my spiritual *life* : and as thou art pleased to afford me the *means* of grace, O grant me the *increase* of thy grace,

to answer the *end* of all those means that, in the use of them, I may be made still *wiser* and *holier*, and *better*, and *fitter* for thy blessed *acceptance* in Jesus Christ, my only Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer for quickening Grace.

I ACKNOWLEDGE and bewail before thee, O Lord, the living and all-seeing God, my sinful dulness and *indisposedness* for the duties of thy holy service : when I should *delight* in the law of God, and serve thee with *gladness*, and make it my *meat* and *drink* to do the will of my heavenly Father ; O how cold and *listless* am I to do that which is the best for me, and which does most nearly and eternally concern me. I am alive to the world, and very apt to be *transported* with sensual objects ; but how *heavy* and *dead* to those offices of attendance on my Lord, which are the glory and joy of all the *worthies* of heaven ! My soul cleaves to the *dust* of the earth ; *quicken* me, O Lord, according to thy word, according to the word of thy *precept*, which does command us to be spiritually minded ; to *abound* in the work, and not to be slothful in business, but *servent* in spirit, serving the Lord : and quicken me, O my Lord, according to the word of thy *promise*, that sin shall not have dominion over thy servants ; and that thou wilt *perfect* what concerns thy people. Dear Lord ! be thou *pleased* to perfect that which concerns my soul.

and engage the *love* of my heart to thy service!
and make me delight to do thy *will*, O God,
and with an enlarged heart to run the way of
thy commands. O help me to put forth my-
self with *vigour* and *activity* in thy holy ways,
and to apply myself to the performance of thy
blessed pleasure, not only because I *must*, but
because it is the *desire* of my soul, and the *joy*
of my heart to be so taken up, that nothing in
the world may give me so much *cheerfulness* and
sweet satisfaction, as to approve my *heart* unto
thy God, and my ways *pleasing* in thy sight,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Prayer for Ability to acquit ourselves as we ought,
in our several Places and Relations.*

O LORD, our Lord! thy word enjoins us,
wherein we are *called* therein to *abide*
with God. And this is the duty which we are
specially to take care of (next to the care of
our *souls*) to study to be *quiet*, and to do our
own business, that we may provide for our-
selves, and for our *dependents*, and render to
them their *dues*, and not be *burthensome*, but
helpful to others. O thou that givest skill
and ability for the performance of those offices
which thou callest, teach and enable me (I
beseech thee) for the work of my *place*, and all
the duties of my *calling*. Good Lord! pardon
my past unfaithfulness and *negligence* herein,
and direct and bless, and accept, and assist me
in *discharging* it for the time to come. O
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make me so *contented* with what I get by honest means, that I may never offer to go beyond, or *defraud* my neighbours in any matter, but be punctually *just* in all my dealings, and *conscientiously* perform my duty in all my relations, carrying myself as I ought towards every one with whom I am any way concerned in the world, whether superior, equal, or inferior, *offensive* to none ; but (as I have power and opportunity for it) *good* and *useful* to all. O let me not walk disorderly, nor be guilty of the *impertinence* and mischief, to be negligent at *home* and to busy myself abroad in other men's matters ; but may I keep my own *station*, and with quietness work and eat my own *bread* ; and provide things *honest* in the *fight of all men*, following after that which is lovely and of *good* report, and herein exercising myself to have always the conscience void of *offence* towards God, and towards *men* ; yea, whatever any may justly expect from me, help me, O my God, to discharge it faithfully and acceptably ; and command a blessing, Lord, upon all my honest labours and *endeavours*, and make them *successful* to promote my own and others real and eternal *good*, and to glorify thy blessed *name*, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Grace to serve the Lord with Gladness.

O MY God ! thou art a Lord that hast *pleasure* in the prosperity of thy servants ; and thy servants have all the greatest reason to be

most highly *pleased* in the performance of
y service. It is *good* for me to draw nigh to
od, in whose presence is fulness of joy ; and
e hearts of them may rejoice that seek the
ord ; for thou dost not *employ* us but to *oblige*
; not for any *advantage* to thyself, but only
r our own greatest *good* every way, that it
ay go well with us, both here and for ever.

my Lord, I am full of trouble and confusion,
at ever I should be so *listless* as I have been
thy blessed work, and so *lifeless* in it, and
on *weariness* of it, to the dishonour of thy *name*,
and the reproach of thy *service*, as if I had a
ard master, and a *doleful* work. O that I
ould bear as a *burden* that which should be
ie *solace* of my life, and the *rejoicing* of my
heart. Forgive me, I beseech thee, good
ord, all this which I bewail before thee, and
eal the indisposedness in me, which makes
y *service* a *weariness* to me ; and so renew my
pirit and draw and join my heart to thy
lessed self, that I may not serve thee as out
of *compulsion*, but *inclination* ; not as *forcing* my-
lf, but *loving* thy work. O rid my mind of
that tormenting *dread* which makes me *uneasy*
in the service of my Lord ; and give me a
eavenly *heart* set upon the heavenly *business*,
and such a mighty *love* as may *sweeten* all my
bedience, that I may not account it grievous
r tedious, but my soul's *satisfaction* and ex-
ceeding joy. O let me not serve thee, my
God, with the spirit of bondage as a *slave*, but
with the cheerfulness and gladness of an inge-

nuous *child*, sitting down with delight under thy *shadow*, delighting myself in the Lord, and so *pleased* with thy work, that my services may also be *pleasing* in thy sight through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Skill to carry ourselves aright among all with whom we are concerned in the World.

O LORD my God ! I desire to humble myself in thy sight for all the folly, *indecentcy*, and disorder of my *conduct* ; that I have so frequently failed in it, and so foully miscarried and lost myself in my intercourse with my neighbours, that my example has too often tended more to the *hardening*, than to the *converting* of sinners : and that I have lain as a *stumbling-block*, and *rock of offence* in the way of my brethren, not only prone to be *tempted* with evil, and to be overcome myself, but also becoming a temptation and snare to others, so as to *draw* them to sin, or to *embolden* them in it. Though thou hast shewed me what is good, and made me to know better things, and laid the greatest engagement upon me to be *faithful* in thy covenant ; yet, O how apt have I been to lose my *relish* of the things of God among sinful men ! how apt to be carried into folly with the stream of the *company*, to fall into base *compliance*, and consent with sinners, and follow the multitude to do *evil*.

O my God ! give me repentance and pardon for all my own sins, and for all the guilt which
I hav

have contracted in being accessory to the sins of others; and so fortify me with thy grace, that I may not be in such danger to be *awed* or *seduced* out of my religion; that I may ever be *ashamed* of Christ before men, but boldly appear for thy truth and holiness, even in the *face* of an evil and faithless generation. Teach me to walk in *wisdom* towards them that are *without*, and in all *kindness* towards them that are *within*; and without *offence* (in *prudence* and *usefulness*) to all. Make me wise in the *choice*, and in the *use* of my company, that they may not be to me, nor I to them, an *occasion* of falling; but that we may be *mutual* helps and edifiers of one another, and *examples* of all that is good, and imitable and praise-worthy. O great Lord! make me so faithful to thee, and to my own *conscience*, that no conversation with any in the *world* may *discompose* the religious frame of my *soul*, that I may not be startled at any bold *censure* of thy ways and wisdom, nor ever draw back from thee, for the *contradiction* of sinners; but cease from man, whose breath is in his *nostrils*; for wherein is he to be accounted of? O turn my ear of their *faces* into love of their immortal *souls*, who are my *fellow-servants* in thy work, and *fellow-travellers* to our long home; and should be faithful, and *would* be happy. And where I cannot promote their *duty* and *felicity*, yet grant, O Lord, that they may not hinder *mine*; that where I am not *edified*, I may not be *corrupted* by them.

O my God ! may thy *presence* ever sway me more than the *presence* of any *men*, that I may count it a small thing to be judged of them, and not be determined by their *way* or *humour*, but regard my own *conscience* more than others opinion, and do all in the sight of God, heartily as to the Lord ; not in so much care to *ingratiate* myself with any else as to please the great Judge of all. Yet keep thy servant, O Lord, from giving *scandal* and offence to any ; that I may not, by pride and passion, by vanity and indiscretion, or by morosity and sour opposition, *disparage* my profession, nor make the way of *truth* through me to be evil spoken of ; but help me, my God and Guide, to walk *circumspectly*, and to speak and act with due consideration of all *times* and *places*, *persons* and *circumstances*, that I may wisely behave myself, and guide my affairs with *discretion*, and so go in and out among men upon earth, as to preserve my *integrity* in thy sight, and have my conversation in *heaven*, and still enjoy that most blessed *friendship* with thee, my heavenly Father, and thy dear Son, my only Saviour. Amen.

A Prayer for Grace to use our Speech aright.

O LORD our gracious God ! who hast given us reason and *speech* to *express* our minds to one another, and to *converse* comfortably together : What great cause have we to praise thee, that we are so fearfully and wonderfully made ! and our tongues that are

glory, are most of all so, when with them
set forth thy *glory* ; but alas ! that I have
much cause to humble myself for all the
uses of my *tongue* ; and that I have so many
ys perverted the happy *privilege* of speaking,
her holding my peace where I should have
like to thy honour and the good of my
ighbour ; dumb and *tongue-ty'd* to thy praise
d to pious *conference* with thy servants ; or
e pouring out words to dishonour thy name,
wrong my own *soul*, and to offend and injure
ers. Forgive me, O merciful God, I be-
sch thee, all my sinful *silence*, my vain and
le words, and my evil corrupt *communication*,
d help me so to speak, as to express thy
ace in my *heart*, and to minister the same to
y hearers. Set a watch, O Lord, before my
outh, and keep the door of my *lips*, that no-
ing thence may proceed but what shall be,
me way or other, good for the use of *edifying*.
elp me to keep my mouth as with a *bridle*,
hen I am provoked to speak unadvisedly with
y lips ; and let no *profane* or *filthy* speeches
ceed out of my mouth, nor any thing be
d by me, that ought not to be named among
triflers.

O Lord, open thou my lips, that my *mouth*
ay shew forth thy *praise* ; make me forward
speak for thee, and for the service of thy
uth, and the glory of thy *name* ; but as slow
speak, and *evil* to defile myself, or to hurt
y neighbour. Give me, Lord, a *confederate*
ind to weigh what is fit to be said ; and make

me wise and serious, sober and modest, pious and charitable in what I speak, that it may be without offence, but not without *profit* to the partners in my conversation. fill my heart with such *grace*, that out of the good *treasure* I may be ever and anon producing somewhat to oblige the *company*, and to advance thy *glory*; and put such *thoughts* into my mind, and such *words* into my mouth, that my tongue may be as the pen of a *ready writer* to utter things seasonable and acceptable, to the benefit of my *associates*; and that I never abuse the liberty of *speech* into the licentiousness, of *vain* or *evil-speaking*; but turn and employ it to the wise and good and worthy use for which it was given; and speak of, and testify thy *testimonies*, even before the *greatest*, without being *ashamed*.

O Lord! restrain the *blasphemous* and brutish generation, that set their mouths against thee, *venom*, and (out of those open *sepulchres*) bring forth impieties and impurities, to dishonour him that made them; to grieve the *soul* of thy *servants*, and to spread the *contagion* of their ungodliness. O fill their face with *shame* for what they have done, and their hearts with *dread*, to stop them from proceeding so farther. Confound the *viperous* brood, hiss and vent their *venom* against thy holy will, and give them other *tongues*, that they may use thy *gifts* to better purpose. O let the *lying* be put to silence, that speak grievous things *proudly* and contemptuously against thee.

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us. And let such as *fear* thee, and inkth
pon thy name, *speak* often to one another ;
as to promote and set forward their common
glorification and consolation, and eternal salvation,
through thy gracious goodness to them in Jesus
Christ. Amen.

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HEARKEN to the voice of my cry, my
King and my God ; for unto thee will
I pray ; but wherewithal shall I appear before
the Lord, and bow myself to the most high
God, whose holy laws I have *broken*, and whose
just displeasure I have *incurred*. I acknowledge
my transgression, O Lord, and my sin is ever
before me. My iniquities are gone over my
head, as a fore *burden* ; they are too heavy for
me to bear. When thou with rebukes dost
hasten man for *iniquity*, thou makest his *beauty*
to consume away like a *moth*. My *sin* now
has found me out ; and that which once I
thought too little to be repented, seems now
too great to be *pardoned*. I flattered myself
in my own *eyes*, till my iniquity is found to
be *hateful*. I thought I was *rich*, and *increased*
with goods, and *had need of nothing* ; but now I
find that I am *miserable*, and *wretched*, and
deaf, and *blind*, and *naked* : so that there is
nothing but *disorder* and *ruin* in my soul. I
have *undone* myself ; but to work my own
recovery I have no *sufficiency*. O how wicked
have I been to allow myself in the way and
mind

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mind which is *enmity* against God ! How *ignorant*, yet how confident ! How *vile*, yet how arrogant ! In what need of *mercy*, yet how *unmerciful*, how *sinful*, yet how *impenitent*, how *bold* in the sins where *conscience* reprov'd me ; but how *cold* in the cause where thy spirit encouraged me ! Oh the spoils and ruins, and desolations which my sins have made in my *soul* ; how have they darkened my *mind*, perverted my *will*, defaced my *affections*, disordered my *passions*, hardened my *heart*, and seduced it away from my most good and ever blessed God, to cleave unto the things *displeasing* in thy sight, and *destructive* to my soul.

There is no hiding any thing from thee, the infinite God, who fillest heaven and earth. What shall I say unto thee, Lord ? I scarce know how to say bad enough of myself. O woe is me that I have done so foolishly and wickedly ! whither shall I betake myself when against thee, O Lord, I have so sinned, and done such *evil* in thy sight ! Thou art the offended Majesty, out of whose *reach* I cannot escape, and under whose *judgments* I can never be able to bear up. A guilty *consciousness* makes me afraid to come unto thee ; yet I know there is nothing but certain *destruction* to keep away from thee ; and though there is no *peace* to the wicked so *continuing* ; yet if the wicked *for sake* his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and *return* to the Lord, thy promise then, O God, is to have mercy upon him, and *abundantly* to pardon. I have none to seek

o for *remedy* against my sins, but unto the just and holy God, against whom I have *grievously* sinned; and now shall I stand in thy sight, O Lord, who hatest and condemnest the works of darkness, and the workers of iniquity, whose *rath* against sin burns as deep as *hell*, and as long as *eternity*.

I submit, great Lord, to thy *offended* Majesty! and I have no hopeful prospect, looking any way, but to thy Almighty *power*, thy super-abounding *grace*, and thy ever-enduring *mercy*, who at the *lowest* can raise, and at the *first* art able to relieve us. Nothing is too hard for thee to effect; the most wretched case is not past thy *cure*; though our sins be as *scarlet*, thou canst make them as white as *snow*; though they be red like *crimson*, thou canst make them as *wool*; yea, thou hast found a *ransom*, and laid help upon one that is *mighty*, and able to save to the uttermost all that come to God through him. If I had not *sinned*, I had no need of such a Redeemer; but they are *sinners* whom he came to *save*; and therefore, to the Lord Jesus I look with the desire of my soul to find a *healing* for this sinful soul within me, in the precious *blood* of his cross. O God God! when my sins cry to thee for *vengeance*, be thou pleased to hear his blood and merits pleading and interceding for my soul; and speaking better things in my behalf than I am able to do for myself, in all my prayers.

Behold, O merciful Lord, a miserable *object*, which to glorify thy power and compassion,

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thy wonderful work, and great salvation look upon me in my *blood*, and bid me live, and for ever bless thy name. Turn away thy face from my sins, and blot out all iniquities. For thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon my sin, for it is great; too great any but the God of *infinite* goodness and mercy ever to discharge me from. O magnify thy all-sufficiency to help me out in this my woe *miser*y. Make the happy *experiment* upon my poor soul, how great things worthy of thee thou canst do; that where sin hath abounded thy grace may much more abound. Return, O Lord, deliver my soul; O save me for thy mercy's sake: save me from the guilt and filth, from the power and curse of all my sins. And thou, Lord, that knowest how to deliver, make me some way to escape out of the *perpetrate streights* and perplexities into which my sins have cast me, that my iniquities may not hang upon me to be my *ruin*; but that they be taken away and forgiven, washed out with the blood of Jesus Christ. Turn thou me, Lord God of my salvation, and I shall be turned from my sins, and from this present evil world, more effectually and fully to thy blessed Self. O give me a true conviction as may end in sound conversion, and let me experience in myself that gracious God which bringeth *salvation*. I want thy grace, O Lord; and want it I shall for ever, if thou be not pleased to look graciously upon

ne in my blessed Redeemer. But thou wilt never have the less, how much soever thou bestowest: and thou canst not bestow thy grace upon any one that more needs it. O God of all grace, that keepest mercy for thousands, hast thou not a blessing for me? a spiritual heavenly blessing? For thy dear Son, my only Saviour's sake, let me find such grace in thy sight. O get thee everlasting *glory* in so obliging the *unworthy*: and whatever I want, O deny me not that *saving grace* which, though a precious *treasure* that I am bold to ask, yet, it is not too great or good for the God infinitely great and good to give. O do that work of thy grace thoroughly upon my heart, for which I may have cause to glorify thy name for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the troubled Soul.

O GOD of the spirits of all flesh! thou knowest the grievous torment of a *wounded spirit*; and hast promised not to break the *bruised reed*, nor to quench the *smoking flax*: Have pity, Lord of love, upon thy disconsolate servant, whose spirit is sore *broken*, and *overwhelmed* within him; and relieve and heal and comfort him with thy *peace*, and some *tokens* for *good*, that thou hast thoughts of *love* and everlasting mercy towards him. O blessed Jesus, who callest to thee the labouring and *heavy laden* sinners, with the promise of rest for their souls, give some *glimpse* of thy mercy,

and *saith* in thy merits and promises to this poor *troubled* soul, cast down with the sense of his *sin*, and the fear of thy *wrath*. The sacrifices of God are a *broken spirit* : a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. O hide not thy face from thy servant, nor cast him away from thy presence in displeasure ; but speak *peace* to him, and cause thy *grace* to *shine* upon him.

O God of consolation, be thou pleased to cheer him up with the hope and relief of thy *pardon* and *acceptance*, and give him a comfortable *assurance* in thee, and the *witness* of thy spirit with his spirit, to persuade him that he is the *child* of God, whom thou *lovest* though thou *chastenest*, and with thy *terrors* preparest him for thy *comforts*. O that he may see love in the *rod*, and take it as the chastisement of a kind Father, and not the vengeance of an incensed Judge ; and that he may find this *humiliation* working for his everlasting *consolation* ; seeing they that mourn are *blessed*, and shall be *comforted* ; and such as sow in *tears* shall reap in *joy*. O that his sorrow may be the *godly* sorrow which works repentance, not to be repented of : that it may have such a happy *issue*, and end in unspeakable glorious *joy* ; but let him not sorrow as one without *hope*, seeing the trouble for sin is a *preservative* from the damnation of *hell* ; and such as are now in *glory* went this *very way* to heaven, working out their salvation with *fear and trembling* ; and so feeling the *burden* of sin here, that they might not lie
under

under it for ever. Therefore, though he walk in *darkness*, and has no *light*, yet let him *trust* in the name of the Lord, and *stay* upon his God.

O Lord ! rebuke him not in thy *anger*, neither chasten him in thy fore *displeasure* ; but return and set him free from the heavy *pressure* now upon him. Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver him ; O Lord, make haste to help him. Quicken him for thy name's sake : and for thy righteousness sake bring his soul out of trouble. Thou hast shewed him great and fore troubles ; be thou pleased to *revive* him again, that he may rejoice in thee. Shew him thy mercy, O Lord, and grant him thy salvation. O refresh him *early* with such thy mercy, that he may be glad, and rejoice in thee all his days, when thou hast considered his trouble as thou hast known his soul in *adversity*, that thy name may have the glory, and his soul the comfort of thy seasonable relief, and thy sweet abundant mercies in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for the Enjoyment of God's gracious Presence and divine Communion.

O THOU infinite *Majesty* of heaven and earth, who canst no where be *absent*, but fillest all things ! no place is so desolate as to be without thee : no men so bad, but they live and move, and have their being in thee. Yea, the very *devils* are not out of thy reach,

but aware of thy presence, though to their cost ; and even in *hell* thou art there : but to thy people and saints, that are of the household of God, and bear thy image, and know thy voice, and how to prize thy love, to them thou art pleased to open and *communicate* thyself in an especial *favourable* manner, and to go in and out among them as the children of thy *family* ; and (in the most wonderful condescension) to treat them as thy friends and *favourites* ; to revive their *spirits* and to cheer their *hearts* ; and thou hast promised that thou wilt not leave them *comfortless* ; but come to them and dwell in them, and be their God, and let them be thy *people*. Thus thou dost *manifest* thyself to them, though not to the *world* ; for the ungodly are far from thee, and live without God in the world. Our *sins* (alas !) do make the cursed wall of *separation* between thee and our souls ; and for my *sins*, O how justly mightest thou, Lord, *forsake* me, and cast me off in displeasure, and hide away thy face, and keep at a *distance* from me, and abandon me over to my wretched *self*, as an enemy whom thou canst not love, but disdainest to look upon.

But though my *ill deserts* at thy hands may well provoke such thy *indignation* against me, yet let my *forlorn* estate without thee move thy *compassion* towards me ; and where thou canst not take pleasure in me, yet, Father of *mercies*, have *pity* on me, and cast me not away from thy presence, nor *abhor*, nor *forsake* me for
thy

thy name's sake, and for the sake of that *mercy* which has moved thee to do so much already for me, and so far to discover thy *grace* upon me. O come to me, and make me such as that thou mayest *abide* with me, and *rejoice* over me to do me good. My soul is as a desolate *wilderness*, a confused *chaos* ; yea, even the image of *hell* without thee my God, while thou art not with my *spirit*, I live *wickedly* to thy dishonour, and I know not how soon I shall die *wretchedly*, to my own eternal undoing, if thou cast not an eye of pity upon me ; if thou make not hast in *mercy* to help me. O *Emanuel*, God with us ! for thy *mercy's* sake, for thy *promise* sake, for my *misery's* sake, see me lying afar off, and bring me *nigh* through the *blood* of thy cross. O bring me out of my *strangeness* to thee, and my *distance* from thee, that I may be safe under the *shadow* of thy wings, and happy in the *solaces* of thy love.

If thou reject me, O my God, what company or comforts of the world can then avail, or make any *recompence* for the loss of thy favour, in which is *life*, and without which I am *dead* while I live, and shall be for ever *accursed* when I die. But if thou be with me, and lift up the light of thy *countenance* upon me, I shall have heavenly *fellowship*, and overflow with unspeakable *joy*. Even in the absence of all other friends and comforts I shall not *need*, I shall not *desire* them, when I can go to God my exceeding *joy*, and be taken up with my *blessed* Lord, in whose *presence* is fulness of joy.

O blessed are they whom thou chusest and causest to *approach* so nigh unto thee, O Lord, and who are so highly favoured by thee; whose gracious presence can make the poorest *cottage* better than the stateliest *palace*, and fill the hearts of thy servants with such *divine* delights, to which the greatest men of the world are strangers. O what manner of *love* is this, that the great God of *heaven* should vouchsafe to visit and reside with poor *mortals* on earth! And O that my soul were fit to be the habitation of the *King* of glory. But, Lord, how *unworthy* am I that thou shouldest come under my *roof*. O blessed Jesus, be thou pleased to regard my *undone* state without thee, and my restless *longings* after thee, and be pleased to come unto me, dear Lord, not because I *deserve*, but because I *need* thee; not for my *merits*, but for thy *own*, who art worthy; for whose sake I should be so *favoured* from on high. My Lord and my God, whom have I in *heaven* but thee? and there is none upon *earth* that I desire besides thee. O be not as a *stranger* to the soul in which thou hast planted an *inclination* to serve thee, but bless and honour me with that *divine fellowship* of which thou hast made me not only capable, but desirous; and give me the satisfaction to *find* what thou hast given me a heart to *seek*; yea, give me *grace*, O my Lord, to go on *seeking* till I find thee whom my soul desires above all to *love*; let me endure any thing easier than
thy

A Prayer for heavenly Comforts. 251

absence and *displeasure*, and desire nothing such as thy *presence* and *favour*.

And be not thou far from me, O my God ; let me experience thy gracious *presence* with me, and the goodness of the Lord passing over me. Lord Jesus be with my *spirit*, and dwell in my heart by faith ; as thou hast promised to be with thy lovers and followers always, even to the *end* of the world ; Lord, for *mercy's* sake, blot out my *sins* ; and then, for thy promise sake, come and *visit* my *soul*. Make me such as I should be towards thee, such as thou mayest take *pleasure* in me ; then shew thyself unto me with the favour which thou bearest to thy people ; and mayest graciously *abode* with me now on *earth*, be to me a comfortable *earnest* of my glorious life with thee for ever in thy heavenly *kingdom*.

Be with me, O my Saviour, every where, at all times, in *health* and in *sickness*, in *prosperity* and *trouble*, in all *estates*, and in all *circumstances* of my life ; to *sanctify* and *sweeten* to me whatever befalls me ; and never leave nor *forsake* me in my present *pilgrimage* here, till thou hast brought me safe through all trials and dangers, to be *ever* with the Lord ; there to live in thy *light*, and *love*, and *glory*, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer for heavenly Comforts.

MOST blessed Lord, the God of all *consolation*, who comfortest those that are *downcast*, and givest such peace and joy, as

the world can neither give nor take away; confess myself unworthy of so much as a good look from thy gracious eye, or any glimpse of the light of thy countenance, to be lifted upon my soul. I deserve to be in heaven for my sins, to groan under the oppressive burden, even all my days, and at last to down in sorrow to my grave; but because thou knowest, Lord, our danger to surfeit on the pleasures of sin, when thou withholdest heavenly consolations from us; and that the joy of the Lord is our strength, to carry us on with fidelity and alacrity in the way of our duty; I beseech thee, O Lord of love, to speak peace to my conscience, and say to my soul, that thou art my salvation: To fortify me against the foolish sinful pleasures, and to engage my heart to faithfulnes in the covenant of my God; I beseech thee some tokens of thy love to me, some discoveries of the light of thy countenance upon me, some experience of the joy of thy blessed spirit in me; my soul thirsteth for thee, my God, to see thy power, and thy glory, so as I have seen thee in the sanctuary. How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord for ever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? O cause thy face to shine upon me, and let my heart rejoice in thee, because I have trusted in thy holy name. Let my mouth be filled with thy praise, and with thy honour all the day long; and let my soul
Satisfied

satisfied as with *marrow* and *fatness*, when I praise thee with joyful *lips*.

Whether I come in or be left out, in the distribution of thy *common* favours, which thou scatterest with an *indifferent* hand amongst all sorts of men, O remember me, Lord, with the favour which thou bearest to thy *people*, and visit me with thy salvation ; that I may see the good of thy *chosen*, that I may rejoice in the *gladness* of thy nation, and *glory* with thy *inheritance*. O that I may experience the *joy* and *peace* in believing, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and count thy *love* better than *wine*, and prefer it above my *chiefest* joy. Seeing the work of righteousness is *peace*, and the effect of it *quietness* and *assurance* for ever ! O make me the true and faithful subject of that spiritual *kingdom*, which is *righteousness* and *peace*, and *joy* in the Holy Ghost. O let me so taste that the Lord is *gracious*, and give me such feelings of thy spirit's *operations* in me ; such *witness* with my spirit, such *hopes* of thy glory, and such *tokens* for good, to persuade and assure my heart of thy everlasting love and favour in Christ Jesus, to my soul, that my soul may *bless* thee, O Lord, and all that is within me may praise thy holy name ! And that the *satisfaction* and *delight* which I take in thy service, may also *invite* in others to give up themselves to it ; and so thou the blessed Giver of all joy and comfort, mayest by us all be *glorified*, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer

A Prayer and Praise for a converted Sinner

I WILL praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify thy name for evermore ; so great is thy mercy towards me, that thou hast delivered my soul from the *lowest hell*. My lips therefore shall glorify and rejoice, when I sing to thee, and my soul which thou hast *redeemed*, shall make her boast of the Lord. For I was *darkness*, but now *light* in the Lord ; I was *dead*, and am now *alive* again ; I was *lost* and am *found*. When thine eye pitied me, and when I had not aught to pity myself, then didst thou, Lord of all, look upon me in my *blood*, and bid me O sinful wretch ! that I should be *taken* from among others *left* ! I stand amazed at thy kindness and love, O God my Saviour, for all the things which thou hast done for my *soul*, than if thou hadst given me wealth, strength, and *wit*, and beauty, to the *enrichment* of all ; more than if thou hadst set me up with the Princes of the earth, and bestowed me with all the fulness and glory of the world ; for, O how soon do all these things pass away and *perish* ! but the *word* of God, by which I am *born* again, lives and abides *for ever*. The grace of God, which brings salvation, applied to me, is in me a *well* of water springing up to *everlasting life*. O God of all grace ! thou hadst such thoughts of mercy towards me, even when I was in enmity against thee.

did nothing but forget and *provoke* thee, thou wilt not despise the day of *small* things, nor cast me off for the *failings* of my services, after thou hast wrought in me some *good* things towards thee, and brought my soul from the gates of *hell*, within prospect of the *heavenly* glory.

O what great and fore troubles hast thou shewed me ! yet didst thou turn again and *refresh* me, and comfort me on every side with the most *reviving* and richest of all mercy. I must for ever have perished, if thou Lord, hadst not brought me from my *deadness* in trespasses and sins, to *newness* of life ; and better I never had been *born*, if I had not been *new-born*. O blessed *change* ! and mighty work, worthy of God ! O the *riches* of grace, and the *wonders* of divine power and love ! What shall I render to the Lord for these *greatest* of all *benefits*, which I am not able so much as worthily to *express* ? I can never enough *admire* and *bless* thee, O my God, for thy love to my *soul*, which thou hast brought to see the *joy* of thy salvation ; how thou didst bear with me in all my *dulness* and *perverse*ness, and what work thou hadst to bring me into any good *hopeful* way for the heavenly bliss. Yet wouldest thou not suffer me to undo myself, but gavest me *checks* in the way of my sins, till thou hadst *overcome* my *heart* by thy *Almighty* *grace*, and brought me *home* to thy blessed self ; and from the slavish dread of thy *wrath*, to the sweet apprehensions of thy *love*.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name. My God and Saviour, I was *hopeless* and *helpless*, and *lowest* thou hast remembered me ; at the time thou hast holpen and comforted me ; that the pit of *hell* was upon me, and thou hast set me above that killing *dread*, to rejoice in his glory. I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the *wise* and *prudent*, and has revealed them unto *babes*. O who am I, thou my wretch, that I should be made so happy and differ from any others, and from my fellow self ! O what have I done to invite such favour and mercy to shine upon me, when so great a curse of the world is still in *darkness*, and in the shadow of death. I am *unworthy*, Lord, *unworthy*, but thou art the God *infinitely* and *abundant* in mercy.

O blessed God of my salvation, accept my oblation of *myself*, and all my services, together with my thanks and praise, for thy love in Christ Jesus, wherewith thou hast eternally *obliged* me to thyself. To give glory to thee, O what abundant cause hast thou given me, when as I have no good thing to boast of on earth, but of thy *bounty*, and am out of debt only through thy *mercy*. And O that my life may be spent in thy dearest love, and in thy faithful *service*, ever delighting to do thy will. O my God ! as I am the *receiver* of such mercies, so make me the *preacher* of thy praise. Let me bless thee, Lord, at all times, and

my praise continually in my mouth, even while have my being. Accept, O gracious Father, and continue me for thy own, and make me still fitter for thy blessed acceptance in Jesus Christ my Saviour. Amen.

A Prayer after a Relapse into Sin.

O MY God! I am filled with *confusion* to lift up my face upon thee, from whom have so foolishly and wickedly departed; and against whom I have so greatly and *provokingly* sinned. I am ashamed to *confess* unto thee what alas!) I have not been afraid to commit against thee. Thou, Lord, hast made me to grow *better*, but I have held the truth in *unrighteousness*, and therefore deserve to be beaten with many *stripes*, for sinning so against my own knowledge. Yea, how oft have I been taught as with *briars* and *thorns*) what an evil and bitter thing it is to trespass upon the Lord, as I have done! and yet (worse than a *child* or *mute*) I have run upon the offences for which I knew I must sadly *repent*, or do *worse*; nor have I only resisted the clearest *light* and *conviction*, but trampled on the richest *grace* and *love*; therefore I am *inexcusable*, O righteous Lord! and have nothing to say in my own defence: no, the guilt which I have contracted, stops my *mouth*. O into what a *depth* am I fallen! and is there any *hope* now for one that is so wilfully spoiled himself as I have done? The pardon and grace which I am *necessitated* to come begging at thy hands, O my Lord,

how much greater are they than I have ar
reason to expect ! yet not greater than tho
the God of all grace canst give ; nor greater tha
thou hast also *promised* to bestow even upon th
greatest sinners, *repenting* and *returning* to the
It is thy reviving word to such, that thou wi
have *mercy* upon them, and abundantly pardon
and though men may be false, and their offe
but *ensnarements*, yet faithfulness itself can nev
deceive us.

Seeing thou hast made such a way for ou
redemption, O God of all grace, to heal an
save our poor lost souls, by the stripes an
death of thy own beloved Son ; O that th
blessed Saviour whom thou hast sent into th
world, may exercise his *power* and *pity*, an
great *salvation* upon me, in this my woefi
condition ! and make me some way to *escap*
that I may not be thus taken *captive* by th
tempter at his will. Good God ! there
nothing in me but *misery* to move thy *merc*
O fetch arguments of pity from thy own ini
nite *goodness*, and thy tender *inclinations*, to con
passionate and relieve poor sinners returni
to thee, after they have foolishly *misbehav*
themselves and wickedly *rebelled* against the
Mercy, O Lord, mercy I beg of thee, f
mercy's sake ; O let thy compassion spare m
and with-hold thy *justice* from proceeding again
me. I have sinned as a silly wicked man ;
Lord, pardon and heal me, as an Almight
and most merciful God. I have gone astr
like a lost sheep ! O seek thy servant, Lord, ar
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Bring me back to the *Shepherd* and *Bishop* of my ill. Wilt thou take this sad *opportunity* to advance thy everlasting *glory*, in pitying the worst of *fools*, in saving the *chief* of sinners? For thy name sake, O Lord, pardon my iniquity, which is so exceeding *great*. O above me from the guilt, deliver me from the power, cleanse me from the pollution, and free me from the punishment of this, and all my offences, that expose me to thy *wrath*, and dispose me for thy *service*; estranging me from thee, and hindering the freedom of my love, and delight in thee.

Lord of love, the God of my mercy, heal my *backslidings*, that I may not again return *folly*. O let me *vow* and *pay* to the Lord my reward; and so go forth in thy *strength*, that thou mayest confirm my resolution, and enable me to perform what I have promised. O thou compassionate Succourer of the *tempted*, deliver me not into *temptation*, but, by thy grace and mighty aid, *secure* me so to thyself, that I may not only in this day of confusion and anguish (when my wounds are fresh *bleeding* on me) but in all times to come, humble my *soul*, and hate my *sin*, and take heed to my *sins*; and with purpose of heart cleave to the Lord, and keep in thy holy *fear* and *love* to the end of my life's end. *Amen.*

Another humbling Office under any foul Fall.

) JUST and holy God, what shall I say unto thee, and how shall I shew my face before thee, after I have so highly *affronted* thy

260 *A Prayer under any foul Fall.*

glorious Majesty, and *violated* thy right commands, striking more wounds still into woefully-distressed *conscience*. O that I sh have the sad occasion to come upon the account, to confess and *bewail* the sin w I have so often confessed and bewailed. Lord, I am ashamed that I have this *need* beg; and afraid lest my sins have so provoked thee, that I should beg in *vain*; for sin, w it is finished brings forth *death*; it destroys grace, and peace, and comfort now; without the *interposition* of Infinite Mercy will destroy soul and body *eternally*. And w I am under the desert of that condemnation O what mercy from the *Father of mercies* I experience, that it is not executed upon me. What patience, but that of the long-suffering God, would ever bear with such as *provoke* every day, when he could so easily break in fury, and avenge him of his adversary how justly mightest thou, Lord, refuse to me now crying to thee in the *anguish* of soul; who have so often refused to hear calling upon me by the motions of thy Spirit! O the spoils, and havock, and delation, which my *sin* has made in my soul many *aggravations* of this sin, do make it beyond measure *sinful* till I am become vile in my own eyes. And such frequent falls do destroy my hopes, and render my case so extremely hazardous, that I am ready to fear, lest me should quite have done with me, and abandoned me over to my wretched self, and leave me to

thy still, and to lie and *perish* in my sins, because I have revolted still more and more.

I abhor myself and humble my soul here in the dust before thee, O Lord ! and because I have made so bold with thy *laws*, I am sorely afraid of thy *judgments*. My sins have taken such hold of me, that my heart fails me ; yet, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me *clean*, and make me *whole*. I come therefore in hope to beg the so often *forfeited* life of my poor soul, at thy blessed hands ; for thou that hast charged us to forgive an offending brother *seventy times seven*, (even as oft as he repents) wilt not (thyself) be harder to thy *offenders*, when they become *penitent* seekers of thy mercy : no, though we so often forget our *duty*, thou canst ever forget thy *mercy*. A woman may sooner forget her compassions to the fruit of her *womb*, than the Lord of love will forget his kindness to his *child*. And to the mercy that has hitherto, so wonderfully *endured* me, O my Lord, seek and beg now this addition, even the further *prolonging* yet of thy patience towards me.

In the day of my trouble I will call upon thee, for thou wilt answer me. I believe, Lord, thy power and thy readiness to *relieve* poor sinners repairing to thee ; and to that didst thou, O blessed Saviour, come into the world, and shed thy *precious blood*, to atone for our *guilt*, and to cleanse us from all our sins. O that I, who have the greatest *need*, may feel the happy *benefit* ! that where sin has

abounded, thy grace may much more *abound*. Look upon me, O Lord, as thou didst on thy offending *disciple*, to melt my heart into a kindly *relenting*, and penitent concernment for this great *evil*; that I may look upon whom my sins have pierced and *mourn*; and be in *bitterness* for the grievous offences that I have committed against the Lord of love, and the God of all my mercies. What is past, I cannot recall it; but thou, my Jesus, canst *remit* it, and give me grace to *repent* it. O give me such *true* repentance for it, that thou mayest also, give me *full* pardon of it, and, in thy great mercy, be *reconciled* to me, and at peace with me.

And grant, O gracious Lord, that the *custom* of sinning may not so *dull* my sense of it, that I should commit these *great* sins with *little* remorse. Nor let it so increase my sinful *inclinations*, that I should be the *servant* of corruption, giving *harbour* and encouragement to the cursed things, and taking part with the enemies of my own house, to be the worst *tempter* to myself. Be thou, O Lord, my strong *tower* of defence against them, and enable me to go on *conquering* and to *conquer*, til in the name of the Lord, I have destroyed them. So often have I fallen by their hands that I fear lest one day I should so fall by them as never to rise again; but thou, my Strength and my Redeemer, art stronger than the *strongest*, and able yet to secure me. O blessed Keeper of Israel, keep back thy servant from presumption

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presumptuous sins ; let them not have dominion over me, that I may be upright and innocent from the great transgression ; nor punish my *past* sins, by giving me up to commit sin with *greediness*, but subdue my iniquities that prevail against me ; and pluck me out of the mire and the snare, for thy mercy's sake. O that the same mercy, which has hitherto held the hand of *justice* from cutting me off, and so often *spared* me, may also *forgive* and *renew* me ; and so strengthen all the good things of thy grace in my soul, that I may be full of *power* to defend thy *rights* against these *usurpations* of the sinful part in me ; and may be found so faithful until *death*, that thou mayest give me the crown of *life* ; not for any worth in me, but for the *worthiness* of thy Son, and for the sake of thy own tender mercies in Jesus Christ. Amen.

• *Thanksgiving for a Recovery, after a Fall into Sin.*

I BLESS thy name, O Lord my God, infinitely good, that thou hast kept me *alive* to this day ; and after all my ill *carriage* towards thee, and all my presumptuous boldness with thee, and manifold *rebellions* against thee, thou hast not given me over as a prey to the deadly enemy of my soul, that seeks to devour me, but dost yet leave me a reserve of hope, that it is not in *vain* to seek thy face, and to wait for mercy at thy hands. O my God. how
Z 6 wonderful

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wonderful is thy *patience* in my eyes, that I have not perished in such sins. 'Tis through thy grace that I come to *pause* and consider of my sin and danger, and the way to escape. And therefore hast thou so spared me in all my sins, that, by helping in such a *desperate* case, thou mightest shew forth all the *wonders* of thy grace.

O Father of *mercies*, hast thou yet a *blessing* for such a rebellious wretch ? And may I yet make bold to look for thy blessed *favour*, after I have done thee such infinite *wrong* ! O the inconceivable *depths* of thy goodness that are in thy gracious *nature*, to use me as a dear friend, who have misbehaved myself towards thee, as the worst *enemy*, and to leave me *hopes* of pardon and *heaven* ; when it is mercy far above all my deserts, but spare my life upon earth, and to keep my soul out of *hell*. And hast thou, Lord, kept me to this day, and brought me through so many temptations and dangers in my life, to be avenged on me, and to *destroy* me at last ? O my gracious Father, the God of all my mercies, I cannot think thou so delightest in my death. I have wronged thee too much with all my sins already ; and let me not add this now to the heavy score, to dishonour such *tried* mercy, with the base distrust, and *despair* of its continuance. O no ; I believe (Lord, help my unbelief) that thou art not willing I should perish, but by *repentance* come to *salvation* : and O what a gracious God have I, to deal so bountifully with me ;
and

and what a *stony* heart, to be no more *afflicted* with the richest mercy ! O what a life of *sins*, and what a life of *mercies* has mine been ! With *amazement* I reflect on both, to think how *bad* I have been towards thee, my Lord, and yet how good thou hast been to my *soul*. O that such wonders of love may have the prevailing force upon my heart, to turn it against the *sins* that have engaged me in such *rebellion* against the Lord, and to bring me *nearer* to my God than ever I have been ; and to make me more *abound* in thy love, and more *delight* in thy service than ever I have done. O that I may never commit sins so *great* against the God so infinitely *good*, but be warned by these *escapes*, and won by these *mercies*, to be more watchful and faithful in keeping myself from *my iniquity* ; continually fearing to *offend*, and endeavoring to *please* thee, my God, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Thanksgiving for spiritual Victory.

O LORD God, Almighty and most merciful, who givest *strength* and power to thy people ; and with the temptation makest them a way to *escape* ; by thy *grace* I am what I am, and thy grace bestowed on me was not in *vain*, but helped me in time of need, to withstand and overcome the temptation where-with I was assaulted. My own strength, Lord, thou knowest, is but *weakness* and my heart not to be *trusted*. But thy hand held me up, and

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and by the help of my God, I have preserved my *integrity*, and so resisted the *devil*, as to make him *fee* from me. I find, O Lord, by sweet and joyful experience, thy ways to be ways of *pleasantness* and paths of *peace*; and that in observing thy laws there is great *reward*. O how much are the heavenly raptures of *victory* to be preferred before the *filthy pleasures* of sin! shame, and dread, and sorrow, are the curied consequences of *yielding* to the *tempter*; but glorying and confidence, and the peace of God, and *joy in the Holy Ghost*, are the *conqueror's* portion.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall be joyful in my God, who has *lifted* me up, and not suffered my foes to *triumph* over me. They have *trusted* sore at me that I might fall, but the Lord helped me. The Lord is my strength and my song, and is become my salvation; the voice of *rejoicing* and *salvation* is in the dwellings of the righteous. The right-hand of the Lord doth *valiantly*, and brings mighty things to pass. I shall not *die*, but *live*, and declare the works of the Lord, and tell what he has done for my *soul*. Blessed be God, who has not turned away my *prayer*, nor his mercy from me. O Lord my God, thou hast been watchful over me for *good*, thou wast *nigh* to me, thou hast shewed thy Fatherly *care* of me, and in love to my soul hast *preserved* me, because thou hadst a favour to me. I am *thine*, and I will be thine, and will love thee, and bless thy name, and give thee thanks for ever. Amen.

A Prayer

*Prayer for greater Concernment and Diligence
for the Soul, and the Things of another World.*

LORD God, to whom I do owe myself
and all that ever I *am*, or *have*, thou hast
given me my being, and my *time* and talents
in the world, as opportunities and advances
for thy *service*, and for the working out
my *salvation*. And O what have I to do
on *earth*, but to prepare myself for *heaven*,
in I am here placed between the infinite
variety of happiness and of misery, in a *capacity*
of the one, and in *danger* of the other. O what
should be my care and utmost endeavour, but
to flee from the wrath to come, and to lay hold
on *eternal life* ; to provide well for my *ever-*
lasting condition, and to make sure work for
my *immortal* soul in this only time of prepa-
ration ; but O how *negligent* and *careless* have
I been in that which most of all concerns me,
neglecting every thing rather than the great *work*
which thou didst send me into the *world* to
do ; and so thou mightest justly come upon
me, Lord, with a dreadful *surprise*, to call
to my last accounts, in a day *unlooked for*,
at an hour that I should not *be aware* of ;
for the sake of that mercy of thine in Christ
Jesus, which has prevailed with thee to spare
me *so long*. go on, I beseech thee, O my God,
be merciful to me, in forgiving me all my
past sloth and negligence ; and in *quicken-*
ing me to a greater concernment and assiduity.

to *redeem* the time that I have lost, and to *improve* every present enjoyment to my soul's *eternal* advantage. O preserve me from all the distracting *cares*, and the sinful *pleasures* of this life; and let me look less upon the *temporal* things that are seen; and keep open my eye towards the great unseen *eternal* things that are before me. O make me more concerned for my *everlasting* state, and more careful to do that work, which, above all things in the world, is most needful to be done. O let me dread the doom of the *slothful* servant, and not be listless to the business that is of the greatest *importance*. Lord, shew me both the *truth* and *reality*, and also the *worth* and *excellency* of things to come; both to dispel all my *doubting* of them, and also to whet my earnest *longing* after them. O give me such a *view* and apprehension of my supreme eternal *good*, as may raise my *desires* after it, proportionably to it, and make me so *dissatisfied* without it, that may count nothing too much to *do*, nothing too hard to endure; so that I may at last attain the blessed *enjoyment* of it.

O let the meditation of *hell* be a preservative to deter me from all the ways leading to the dreadful *end*; and may I so look to the heavenly *joy* set before me; that with all vigor and *alacrity* I may put forth myself, to get safe into the possession of everlasting *glory*. my God, give me the spirit of *wisdom* from above, to discern the vast *disproportion* between the short moment of this present time, and

the infinite duration of *immortality* ; and between the pleasures of sin, that are but for a *season*, and those heavenly pleasures that are at thy right-hand for *evermore*. Seeing all these things must be *dissolved*, O make me such a manner of person as I ought to be, in all holy *conversation* and *godliness* ; looking for, and hasting to, the coming of the day of God. Quicken me, O Lord, in my *dulness*, and hasten me out of my *delays* ; that I may not prolong the time of doing what I am convinced is *necessary* to be done ; to save me from the *second death*, and bring me to inherit *eternal* life. O ! to what purpose am I troubled and *careful* about many things, when I neglect the *one thing needful* ! Help me, my God, to use the *reason* and understanding which thou hast given me, in looking *before* me, and considering what it is that makes for my true *happiness* ; and give me also resolution and faithfulness to *choose* and *follow it*, whatever difficulties at present may be in it. Help me, O Lord, to remember and consider all the powerful *inducements*, which may quicken me into a greater *care* for my *eternal* state ; that my *being* may not last longer than the *good* of my being, but may it go well with me elsewhere for ever, when all that is here shall fail me. O that I may now give diligence to make my *calling* and *election* *sure*, and strive to enter in at the strait gate, and *labour* for that meat which endures to everlasting life ; by patient *continuance* in well-doing, seeking for glory, honour, and immortality : That I may

not fall *short* of that *rest* which remains for people of God ; but so labour here in thy *u* that hereafter I may rest from my labour thy *kingdom* ; not for the *merit* of my w but for thy *mercy's* sake in Jesus Christ. An

*A Prayer for Faithfulness and Constancy in
Profession of our Religion.*

O MY Lord and my God, who hast ca me to the *knowledge* of thy eternal *t* and by the light of the gospel shining u me, hast made the way of *life* and salva plain before me ! Be thou pleased to give the *ingenuity* and *courage*, still to *confess* 1 before men ; and to own thy holy *religion*, e in the face of an evil and adulterous *genera* O let me not be tossed to and fro, and car away with every *wind* of doctrine by the fl of men, and cunning *craftiness*, whereby the in wait to deceive. My God and guide ! si me not to be led away with the *error* of wicked, and to fall from my own *steadfast* but may I ever hold fast the profession of *faith* without *wavering*, and hold the begin of my confidence *steadfast* to the end. O me such an *experimental* knowledge and re and love of thy holy *truth*, as may make ever faithful and *true* to it ; that my mind not be corrupted from the simplicity that Christ, and that I may never be put out of *religion*, the goodness whereof I have perce so much by my own experience ; but may

appear with zeal for the *religion* in which I have found so much happy *advantage*, and heavenly *satisfaction* to my soul; and grant me, good Lord, to find and feel still more and more of the powerful *efficacy* of true *Christianity* upon my heart, that I may be rooted and grounded in the *faith*, and retain such a dear *love* of the truth, and take so much *pleasure* in the way which thy *grace* has put me upon, that I may never turn from it, nor prove *false* to it; but notwithstanding all temptations to *seduce* or *affright* me out of it, I may openly declare for it, and ever be *true* to it, and faithfully persist in it to my life's end. *Amen.*

A Prayer for Zeal and Activity in the Practice of our Religion.

O LORD, the holy jealous God! thou hast declared how loathsome to thee are the *lukewarm*, and pronounced him *curst* that does the work of the Lord *deceitfully*; and told us the dreadful doom of the *slothful* servant, who was called wicked, and condemned, not for committing *soul evils*, but for neglecting to *improve his talents*. Thou didst send us into this *world* to provide for the next; and we are a people *devoted* to the Lord, that have vowed and promised to serve our God, with all the utmost and *best* that we are or have: This is the *one thing needful*, that we were *made* for, and that we are all most strictly bound to, and must in earnest mind and follow it, as ever

we would escape the damnation of *hell*, and enter into the joy of our Lord ; but I am ashamed, O my God, that I have loitered so long in thy *vineyard*, and trifled so much in thy *work* ; that I have busied myself about *vanities* ; and slighted my greatest *business*. And well may I now tremble for fear of thy *judgments*, when I have so little concerned and bestirred myself, as one of thy *redeemed, zealous* of good works.

O merciful Lord ! forgive me all my sinful *omissions*, and all my *careless* performances of the duties of thy service ; and quicken me into a greater *zeal* and *diligence* to promote thy glory, and to work out my salvation ; that I may not only contend earnestly for the faith and doctrine of the gospel, but be as zealous for the *practice* of all gospel-duties ; so shewing that I am in *earnest* with the religion whereof I make profession.

To glorify thy *name*, and save our *souls*, is the biggest of all our *concerns* in the world ; nothing can deserve so much of our care and zeal, and diligence ; when it is for a *crown* and a *kingdom*, for *heaven* and the glory *eternal*, and to be delivered from thy wrath, and everlasting *damnation*, that we strive and labour. O how much are we concerned to be *vigorous* in it, and all upon it ! *ready* to every good work, and most *industrious* at the business of such infinite consequence, abounding in the work of the Lord ! when upon this *moment* depends the endless eternity to come, and all that

concerns

concerns us for ever, hangs upon the poor *short* life present, that is so quickly gone, and will never *return*. O my God ! *imprint* these considerations so deep upon my heart, that I may no more *trifle* with the weighty things of *eternity*, nor shew a cold *indifferency* about that which is of such absolute *necessity* ; but may act as one that must be a *blessed* or a *damned* creature for ever ; and be as *zealous* for my God, as ever I have been *eager* for the world ; and as active in the pursuit of things *eternal*, as I have been to pursue the *temporal* ; that I may indeed *give up* myself to thy service, and make it the main *care* and *business* of my life ; so shewing the *sincerity* of what I do profess, by that *zeal* and *ferwency*, which is the *life* and *soul* of Christianity. O thou great Rewarder of them that *diligently* seek thee ! help me seriously to engage in thy service, and *unweariedly* to go through with it ; not slothful in business, but *servent* in spirit, serving the Lord ; *exercising* myself to godliness, continuing *watchful* in prayer, keeping my heart with all *diligence*, ordering my conversation with all *usefulness*, and running the race set before me with all *cheerfulness* ; full of *life* and *spirit* in thy work, and full of good *deeds* and fruits to thy honour, ever *labouring* to be accepted here to thy *favour*, and hereafter to thy *glory*.

Yea, make me more zealous for thy *honour*, O Lord, than for my *own* ; and whatever is *injurious* and reproachful to thee, O let me *bate* it perfectly, and *oppose* it strenuously, and

yet with ſuch *prudence* and *kindnefs* towards men, that I may not betray my own *ſhame*, in defending thy *glory*, nor let my zeal *conſume*, but inflame my charity ; and put me upon doing all the *good* that ever I am able in my generation ; to ſerve the *interests* of my Lord, and to help forward the ſalvation of *ſouls*. O make me valiant for thy truth, and diſcreet in my conduct, that I may neither betray the holy cauſe by my *fear*, nor reproach it by my *folly*. O let me not ſpend my zeal and ſpirits for *earthly*, but for *heavenly* things ; not for my own *luſt* and *honour*, but for thy bleſſed *will* and *pleaſure* ; not in frivolous contentions, about the little *appendages* and circumſtantials of religion, but in preſſing after the *vital* and *ſubſtantial* part ; and in my concernment and endeavour about the great *unquestionable* duties and qualifications neceſſary to the ſaving of the *ſoul*. And grant me thy grace, O Lord, to live now ſo *zealouſly* to the glory of thy *name*, that I may come to live *bleſſedly* for ever, in the glories of thy *kingdom* ; not for the ſake of my *ſervices*, but of thy *mercies*, whoſe gift is eternal life, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer againſt Worldlinefs, and for a Heavenly Mind.

THOU, O bleſſed God, art the only ſatisfying *portion* and happineſs of our ſouls, in whom alone the deſires of our hearts may find that *reſt* and *repoſe*, which all the world
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I cannot give ; but, alas, this *world*, and things of it, have had too much of my *sights*, and too much of my *heart*, till I have grown *remiss* in my affections, and *cold* in love towards thee, my God, and those angels above, which are most *worthy* of my love. I have been eager in the pursuit of *vanities* and trifling concerns of this present time ; but O how slack and flighty in that which does most *nearly* and *eternally* concern me ! Intent upon this world, as if it would never *end* ; and forgetful of the next, as if it would never *begin*. I have forsaken the *Fountain* of living waters, to hew to myself the *ten cisterns* that can hold no water ; disquitting myself in vain, *seeking* rest, and *finding* none ; because I have sought where the precious *treasure* is not to be found. And so thou mightest, Lord, leave me to inherit my own *retched choice* ; to eat of the fruit of my own *labours*, and to be filled with my own *devices* ; leaving me all my *portion* in this life, which I have so brutishly preferred before an infinitely *better* ; and shutting me out of that heavenly *glory*, which I have despised for the sake of this present *world*.

But, O thou Father of mercies ! forgive me the *defects* of my love to thee, and all the *weaknesses* of my love to earthly things ; and so *direct* my desires after these *inferior* goods, that instead of *floating* upon the world, I may *rest* earnestly the best gifts, and seek first thy *glory*, and its *righteousness* ; esteeming godliness

the greatest *gain*, and all but *loss* and *dung*, the love of Christ, and the glories of *heaven*. O shew me so much of those great and glorious things of the world to *come*, as may deaden and deaden my affections to the things of the present *world*, and *crucify* the world to me, and me to the world ; that it may lose the *grace* which it has had upon me ; that I may be more *disengaged* and loosened from it, and more *enamoured* with, and intent upon the things *above*, where Christ sitteth at the *right hand* of God, which will fully *satisfy* and never *fail* us. O let me not debase my heavenly *soul*, to *grovel*ling and rooting in the earth, and licking the dust, as if I were all *flesh*, and had nothing to do, but to drudge for the *vile body*. O make me less mind *earthly* things, and despise the most *tempting* enjoyments of this world, for the love of my Lord, and the *hope* of his glory. Make my *heart* be with my *treasure* in the heaven, looking for the blessed *hope*, and the glorious *appearance* of the great God, and our Saviour Jesus Christ ; not coveting great things of this world, nor to continue *long* in it ; but rather in care, to get safe out of it, and desirous to be *dissolved*, and to be ever with the Lord. Even so, come Lord Jesus. Amen, Amen.

*A Prayer for Perseverance and Grace to end
to the End.*

ETERNAL God, with whom is everlasting strength ! thou art able to keep us from *falling*, and to perform the good work begun

in us, till the day of Jesus Christ. But, Lord, thou knowest how weak and *mutable* I am ; how wavering and bent to *backsliding* : how apt to decline and fall off, after I have been set up, and put in a good *hopeful* way heavenward ; and in what danger still to *undo* myself, after all the great things which thou hast done for me. O Lord of love have pity on my *infirmities*, and strengthen me in my *weakness*. Preserve me, thou, blessed Guardian of thy people, who keepest the *feet* of thy saints ; O preserve me from the danger of *apostacy*, and falling away from any good *beginnings*, to which thy *grace* has ever wrought me ; and put thy *fear* in my heart, that I may not *depart* from thee. Make me so firmly *thine*, that nothing which befalls me in the world may ever *part* betwixt thee and my soul ; and make me so *resolute* for thy service, that nothing which any can say or do, may *interrupt* me in, or take me off that way of *life* which is above to the *wise*, to depart from *hell* beneath. O let me not be of the number of those that draw back to *perdition* ; but of their happy number who do believe, to the saving of the soul.

O Lord God ! thou hast begun to shew thy servant thy greatness, and thy mighty hand ; go on, I pray thee, to work for the *glory* of thy name, and perfect that which concerns me. Thou hast been my *help*, leave me not, nor *forsake* me, O God of my salvation ; but hold thou me up, and I shall be safe, and I will have *respect* to thy statutes continually. Stablish,

O Lord, strengthen and settle me, and leave me no will nor power to *resist* the gracious designs and *methods* of thy love and *mercy*, for the healing and saving of my *soul*. And as I (by my frailty) still do renew my *sins*, gracious Lord (through thy mercy) renew me to *repentance*; and though I fall, let me not be utterly cast down; but uphold me with thy Almighty hand; preserve me to thy *heavenly kingdom*; and keep me by the power of God, through faith to *salvation*. O make me so faithful until *death*, that thou mayest give to me the crown of *life*, so to endure to the *end*, that I may be *saved*; that in the end of my life I may receive the glorious *consummation* of all my hopes, that blessed end of my *faith*, the eternal salvation of my *soul*. Amen, Amen.

A Prayer in Prosperity.

BLESSED God, rich in goodness and mercy! thou art the *portion* of my inheritance and of my cup; thou maintainest my *lot*. The lines are fallen to me in *pleasant* places, and I have a goodly *heritage*. I abound and am full of thy good things, and surrounded on every side with thy mercies. And so thou makest my affairs *succeed* to my mind, that I cannot but be *pleased* and satisfied with my condition, and desire with all my *soul* to acknowledge, and bless and praise thee, for all thy special *favours*, wherein thou hast made me to *differ*. Glory be to thee, O Lord, who
has

hast dealt so well with thy unworthy servant, and *signalized* me with such great and sundry *blessings*. But when thou hast made my *mountain* to stand strong, I must not say in my *prosperity*, I shall never be *moved*; whereas, I know not what shall be on the *morrow*, nor how soon the sun may be *hid* that now shines upon me. O Lord! in the time of my *health* and *peace*, and *prosperity*, help me to remember, and provide for the time of *trouble* and *sickness* and *death*; when the world's *enjoyments* will shrink away from me, and prove utterly unable to support and relieve me. Yea, because the prosperity of *fools* destroys them; and the gaining the *world* is the loss of so many *souls*; and that men of the world have all their *portion* in this life, grant, O heavenly Father, that this may not be *my* portion; that I may not abuse the world's *good* to my *dishonour*, and my own *undoing*, nor turn the gifts of thy *bounty* into weapons of *rebellion* against thee, but use them in humility and sobriety, and thy holy fear; doing the better *service* to thee, the greater *obligations* thou layest upon me; yea, making many others to fare the better for such thy *bounty* to thy servant. O make me as *willing*, as thou hast made me *able*, to refresh the bowels of such as *want* what I do *enjoy*; and as freely to *give* as I have *received*; that riches may not be kept to my *hurt*, but laid out to do myself and others real *good*. As I have opportunity, let me do *good* to all, especially to them who are of the *household* of *faith*.

O gracious Lord ! take the *snare* out of my worldly enjoyments, and preserve me from the danger and destruction that so commonly attends a *full* and *prosperous* condition ; and rather turn me out of all my earthly *possessions*, than that they should lie in my way, to stop me out of thy heavenly *kingdom*. O let me not want the *affliction* which thou knowest needful to my *salvation* ; and though thou makest me *poor*, or givest me *trouble*, let me be contented, and bless thy name ; even *taking* away from me, as well as giving to me. But whatever I have here to *enjoy*, O let me never set my *heart* upon it, nor trust in uncertain *riches*, but in the ever-living God, who alone can be to my immortal soul, a *never-failing* portion. O preserve me from the pride and forgetfulness of God, and love of the *world*, and all the vices and corruptions incident to a high and *plentiful* estate : and let none of my *abundance* or *success* in the world, ever puff me up with a proud *conceit* of myself, or a scornful *disdain* of others, or wanton *kicking* against the Lord. O let it not pull me from thee ; but with the cords of *love* do thou *draw* me nearer to thee ; and, with all my other *plenty*, my God, let me have the fulness of thy grace, and be rich in good works, and with all my other successes. O that my *soul* may prosper, and be well in thy blessed *favour*, and made glad with saving mercy, and thy good acceptance of me in Jesus Christ. Amen.

*1 Prayer for the Enlargement and Prosperity of
the Church.*

O GOD of all grace, who hast called out of this present evil world a chosen generation, to know thy will, to seek thy face, to follow thy ways, and to inherit thy glory ; bless all thy *people* every where, and cause thy face to *bine* upon them ; and so add to their number, that all the ends of the *earth* may remember themselves, and turn to the Lord, and see the salvation of our God. Call home to thee again thy once only people the *Jews* ; and take the *veil* off their hearts, that they may see and own their *Messias* ; and let that blood of Christ, which they imprecated upon their heads, to their confusion, light on their *hearts*, to their conversion. Bring in the *fulnefs* of the *Gentiles* ; and give thy Son the *beathen* for his inheritance, and the utmost parts of the earth for his possession. O give thy *gospel* a free and effectual *passage* throughout the world, that it may be further *propagated* where it has not yet *reached*, and the joyful *sound* may be heard, even where Christ is not yet named ; and give such good *success* to it, where it *shines* already, that all who have received it, may sincerely *obey* it ; and every one who names the name of Christ, may depart from *iniquity* ; and let their *light* shine before men, to the glory of our *heavenly* Father, and to the adorning of thy *doctrine*, and advancing the *religion* of God our Saviour.

Convince and convert both the *professed* enemies of Christ, and also the enemies of his own *house*. Beat down all *antichristian* powers, both in the *false Church*, where *Christianity* is so foully *corrupted* ; and also beyond the borders of *Christendom*, where it is openly *opposed*. O shew unto them all the light of thy *truth* ; that they may know it, as it is in Jesus, and expel their *prejudices*, together with their *darkness* ; and so bring them to receive thy *truth* in the love of it, that they may be *saved*. O that the true religion of our Lord Jesus may prevail powerfully, and gain more *profelytes* daily throughout the world ; that *Jerusalem* may be the joy and praise of the whole earth ; and that we may see the *good* of it all the days of our life ! and O that all *errors*, both in judgment and practice, the *heresies* of doctrine, and the *ungodliness* of life, may be more and more *exposed* and confounded, and suppressed, till they be utterly *abolished* ! that the *wickedness* of the wicked (being under *rebuke* and disgrace) may come to an end ; and that truth and peace, and holiness, may get still more *credit* and authority ; and reign and flourish to the ends of the earth ; through the abundant grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for the Reformed Churches abroad.

BLESS, O Lord, in especial manner, all the *churches* that profess thy *holy* and *eternal* truth. Protect them from the enemies that have evil will at Sion ; preserve them in
the

With, and restore to them *peace* where it
 is, and continue it to them where it is.
 Thou hast shewed thy people *hard* things !
 Thou hast made them to drink the wine of
disturbance : O how long shall thy anger smoke.
 O Lord, the *sheep* of thy pasture ! make them
 according to the time wherein thou hast
 fed them, and wherein they have seen
 thy mercy. Lord, how long shall the wicked
trouble ! How long shall they utter and speak
 hard things, and take crafty counsel against
 thy *people*, and consult against thy *hidden* ones !
 O Lord, O God, plead thy own cause ; remem-
 ber how the foolish man blasphemeth thee
 daily. Help, Lord, for the godly man *ceaseth* ;
 the faithful *fail* from among the children
 of men. O that thou wouldst arise and have
 thy mercy upon Sion ; and that the time to *favour*
 thee, the set time were come ! Thou art our
 King, O God ; command deliverances for
 thy people. Arise for thy servant's help, and redeem
 him for thy mercy's sake. Let not the rod
 of the *wicked* rest upon the *lot* of the righteous ;
 give a check and stop to the *persecuting*
 spirit that breaks in pieces thy people, O Lord,
 that afflicts thy *heritage*. When such wicked
 enemies come to eat them up, see them stum-
 ble and fall ; and let thy people never be
 reproved. Yea, not only *restrain* the remainder
 of that *wrath* ; but *so turn it* (as thou didst in
 persecuting *Saul*) that the enemies and
 persecutors of thy ways and servants may become
 thy *servants and followers* of the same.

O hear the *sighs* and support the *spirits*, the *breaches* and hasten the *deliverance* of thy servants, who suffer for the *testimony* of truth, and are persecuted for *righteousness* sake, for thy sake, are *killed* all the day long and counted as *sheep* for the slaughter. O make thy face to shine upon thy *servants*; and redeem Israel out of all his troubles. Be thou, Lord, a refuge for the *oppressed*; a refuge in times of trouble: and come in to their succour; and make them a way to *escape* out of the hands of such unreasonable men, whose mercies are *cruel*. O break thou the *arm* of the wicked and evil man, and judge the *oppressed*, that the man of the earth may no more *oppress*. Shew thy marvellous *loving-kindness*, thou that savest by thy right hand them that *trust* in thee, from those that *rise* up against them. When their *power* is gone, make known thy *own*; and when there is none to help, reveal thy own *arm* to bring *salvation*. Such as are *banished*, and driven to seek their bread in strange countries, leaving all else behind them, that they might take their *religion* along with them, Lord grant them to find *favour* with those among whom they are scattered; and, of thy Fatherly care, provide for them; and, in thy good name, *restore* them to their possessions, and to sure habitations, and quiet resting places. Or, if thou wilt not abate them the troubles on *earth*: yet, Lord, let theirs be the kingdom of *heaven*. For the outward *comforts* which they have lost, O give them
beaver

thy joys within, and *everlasting* consolation. And by their *persecution* and *dispersion*, comfort them for, and conduct and hasten them to the blessed *rest*, which remains for thy people, and the more glorious *rewards* in those heavenly mansions above, where such as die in the Lord rest from their *labours*, and their afflictions follow them. That there (out of the midst of all *disturbance* and *danger*) they may glorify in praise for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for our Church.

BLESSSED be thy name, O Lord our God, who hast called us to be thy *people*; and who hast sent the *day-spring* from on high to visit us, and the light of thy *gospel* to shine upon us. Thou hast sent to us the word of *salvation*; and made thy holy religion to be our *birthright*, and the professed religion of our *nation*. Thou hast not been deficient in *kindness* to us, O Lord; but O how short have we come to our *duty* which we owe to thee our God! O how few things still, time after time, thou hast done in our behalf: but O how little have we done in thy *service*; and how much against thy will, O Lord, good, and righteous *laws*! We have experienced thy care and kindness, as the Father of the Lord, which thy right hand hath directed! Thou hast hedged us about with *providence*, digged and pruned us with thy *rod*, watered and refreshed us with thy *mercy*; and justly mightest thou, after all,

expect the *good* fruits from us. But alas ! our greatest fruitfulness has been in the briars and thorns of *contention*, and the unfruitful works of *darkness*, to dishonour the blessed *name* by which we are *called*, and to affront the heavenly *goodness*, whereby we have been *obliged*. So unworthy have we walked of our holy *vocation*, and so little is it to be seen among us how much thou hast done for us, that we must confess, O Lord, thou mightest justly take away the *gospel* of the kingdom from us, and give it to another *people*, that should bring forth *fruits* more worthy of it, and more *answerable* to it, than we have done.

But, O gracious long-suffering God, who in judgment hast ever remembered mercy towards us ! enter not so into *judgment* with us, for our *unmindfulness* of thee, and our *boldness* with thee ; our *barrenness* under all the means of grace, our *ingratitude* for the most precious benefits, and our *abuses* of the innumerable blessings and favours pertaining to this life and a better, which we so long have enjoyed ; nor remember our *sins* against us ; but remember thy own tender *mercies*, and *loving-kindnesses*, which have been ever of old. O say not of this *land*, thou hast no *pleasure* in it ; but return, we beseech thee, O God of Hosts : look down from heaven, behold and visit this *vineyard*, and the branch which thou madest strong for thyself. Be thou as a wall of *fire* about our church, to check the *malice*, and break the *forces* of all that would invade the peace,

corrupt

Upt the purity, and destroy the prosperity
t. And be thou as a *refiner's* fire, and
a *fuller's* soap in the midst of us, to purge
y our *dross*, and to purify us yet more from
remaining *errors* and *corruptions*; that *right-
ness* may be the foundation of the walls of
the church, and *peace* the ornament of her
aces.

O may that right-hand of thine which does
liantly, work *wonders* for our safety. Espe-
ally, be thou pleased, Lord, to work such
holy *reformation* upon us, that we may be
ly *reformed* people, as well as so called: a
culiar people, zealous of good works: a
ople *eminent* for that *righteousness* which *exalts*
nation; that thou, the righteous Lord, who
est *righteousness*, mayest bless us, and with
our compass us as with a *shield*; and cause
anger towards us to *cease*; and rejoice over
to do us *good*. After all the *methods* for our
od, that we have *resisted*, O what shall we
; but that thou wouldest be pleased, O Lord
: God, to do for us, what thou knowest *es-
ual* to *reclaim* and *save* us? and after all the
ice of God that we have received in *vain*, O
e us the *grace* which we may not *withstand*
abuse, but *comply* with it, to make us such
thou wouldest have us; and to *secure* to us
thy saving mercies in Jesus Christ, our bless-
ed Lord, and only Saviour. *Amen.*

-The Magistrate's Prayer.

O THOU great and supreme Ruler of all the world ! by whom all the governors on earth are set up, to *restrain* the unruly, and to *favour* thy people ! though thou needest not the services of *men* or *angels* to assist thee ; but canst ~~immediately~~ (by thyself) do whatever thou pleasest in heaven and in earth, with the least ~~word~~ of thy mouth, with the least *motion* of thy will, yet thou art pleased to honour some of thy creatures as thy *viceregents*, and to order and govern the sons of *men*, by those of their own kind, exalting some *chosen* out of the people, to *preside* and rule over the rest. Me thou hast called, Lord, to this honour, and hast been pleased to set me above the common lot of men, as one of the little *representatives* of thy blessed self. O King of glory ! I will exalt thee, who hast vouchsafed to raise me, and as thou hast made me to differ from others in this *dignity*, so make me to excel in every *praise-worthy* property. O that I may represent not only thy *power* and *majesty*, but thy *wisdom* and *holiness*, thy *truth* and *goodness*, thy *justice* and *mercy*. O that I may retain a *lowly* mind in my high station, and not forget or *lift up* myself, nor *insult* over my poor inferiors : but, like the great God, who *despises* not any, may I *con-descend* to men of low estate ; and without *respect* of persons, judge according to every *man's work* ; yea, delight to rescue and succour

the *injured* and *oppressed* ; to deliver the *needy* when he cries, the poor also, and him that has no *helper*.

O ! may I rather fear my *accounts*, than be proud of my office ; and in the fear of the Lord, let me ever be careful to execute that which is *righteous* in the sight of God ; and with all faithfulness to discharge my *trust*, as one that must be judged myself, and find the same *measure* with which I *mete*. And seeing the eyes of all are upon me, and my place exposes me the more to common *notice*, and my *example* has a greater *influence* than that of a private ordinary man ; O make me, Lord, the more vigilant and cautious in the *inspection* of myself and the ordering of my *conversation* aright ; that I may not embolden others to commit such *wickedness* as I ought to punish, nor lead people into the *sin* and *ruin* which I should help to *save* them from ; nor be a *scandal* and grief of heart to the holy followers of Jesus, whom I am set up to *patronize*, and comfort ; but let my conversation be such, as shall put to confusion dissolute and exorbitant *sinners*, as well as my justice strike *terror* into the evil-doers. O make me a hearty lover of all good men, and one that honours them why fear the Lord. Make me ever ready and forward to defend, and countenance, and encourage the generation of thy children, such as live godly in Christ Jesus. And let me with courage exert my *authority* in a zealous vindication of thy *glory* ; and in asserting the rights, and promoting

promoting the growth and advancement of thy true and holy religion. O that the honour of thy name, and the interests of thy *kingdom*, and the welfare of thy *church* and *chosen*, may be ever next my *heart*, that above all things I may seek the things of Jesus Christ; and truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. And all the power and interest that I have in the world, O may I so lay it out, for the service of thy holy *truth*, and set forward the blessed design of the *gospel* of thy dear Son, that after my advancement here, I may not be thrown down hereafter, nor receive the dreadful doom, for *betraying* my trust, and abusing my authority; but may appear with comfort and joy before my Judge, whose holy cause I *espoused* and advanced; and whose faithful servants I *sheltered* and cherished, and shewed the greatest kindness to them; and with them may be raised at the last to that highest of all *bliss* and *glory*, which shall endure for evermore. *Amen.*

A Prayer for all our Bishops, Pastors, and Ministers.

O LORD, most high, the glorious head of all the *church*! who hast appointed various *offices* in it, for the perfecting of the *saints*, for the work of the *ministry*, for the edifying of the body of Christ; bless in especial manner

manner all those whom thou hast sent to bless the people in thy name ; and make all our *spiritual* fathers careful and tender *nursing* fathers of the church. Grant them knowledge and grace, both to manage themselves and order their *conversation* aright ; and also to watch for souls, and feed the *stock* of God, and take the *oversight* thereof, not by *constraint*, but willingly ; not by filthy *lucre*, but of a ready mind ; caring for all committed to their charge, and giving to every one his *portion* in due season : that they may rightly divide thy word, and speak it as they ought to speak, and do thy work as thy *workmen*, that need not be *ashamed*. O make them *skilful* and *faithful* in their sacred *callings*, and successful and happy in their good endeavors to promote the knowledge and love of thy *truth*, and all the duties of a *holy life*. And let both their *example* and their *doctrine* be such, as shall help to *save* themselves, and those that hear them. O that they may speak as the *oracles* of God, in *demonstration* of the *spirit* and of *power* ; and that they may shew themselves *patterns* of all the good things which they preach to others ; not *prostituting* their holy calling to serve the *interests* and lusts of men ; but conscientiously discharging it, to the *glory* of their Lord ! not walking in *craftiness*, nor handling the *word* of God deceitfully ; but by manifestation of the truth, commending themselves to every man's *conscience*, in the sight of God ; and being so good *examples* to the flock, that having preached.

to others : themselves may not be *cast* but experience the *joy* of that salvation which they preach ; and when the chief *Shepherd* appear, receive the *crown of glory* that fa-
not away.

Though the *world* hates, and the *devil* poses them, and even many that should en-
rage their labours, do but strive to we-
their hands, and *afflict* their hearts, O good
and good Lord ! do thou shew thy own stren-
to accomplish thy own *work*. Open a v
door to the *gospel*, and defeat all *oppositi*
stop the mouths of *false* prophets, and d
away ravenous *wolves* from the flock,
give them *faithful* pastors. And Lord, cr
the endeavours of thy *messengers* with
heavenly *blessing* ; that they may be mig
through God, to pull down the *strong hold*
sin ; and to edify and build up thy *churc*
the true fear and love of God, and in the r
knowledge and faith of our Lord Jesus Ch
And because wise men *die*, and cannot
queath their *learning* and *talents* unto oth
to supply breaches made upon us by t
mortality, bless our *universities*, and all
schools and nurseries of *good learning* and
religion in the land, that they may send f
men *able* and *apt* to serve thee in *church*
state ; and to *oblige* the world, by doing
in their *generations*, and shewing people the
to be *happy* both here and ever. Amen.

The Author's Prayer for himself, as a Minister.

O BLESSED Jesus, my Lord and my God! what high honour hast thou done me in *calling* me to to the *office* which thou wast pleased to take upon *thyself*! who camest not to be ministered to, but to minister, and to preach the gospel of the kingdom, and teach the way of salvation. All *glory* be to thee, who has been pleased so to dignify me; but as thou thyself (the head of the *corner*) art to come a stone of *stumbling*, and a rock of *offence*; so thy messengers are to them that *perish*, the savour of *death* unto *death*, as well as to them that are saved, the savour of *life* unto *life*. And if thy wife and holy servant asked, *Who is sufficient for these things?* well may I (a weak and sinful wretch) *tremble* under the work of the *ministry*, lest the *blood* of those that perish, through my neglect and default, should be required at my hands, and lest, when I have *beweaved* others the way to *heaven*, I myself should be *shut out*; but I look unto thee, O Lord, my life, my strength and my Redeemer, who hast appointed me in this station, to accomplish me also for it. O thou that ordainest strength out of the mouths of *babes* and *sucklings*, magnify thy *power* in my *weakness*; and shew thyself so graciously and mightily on my behalf, that I may do all things as I ought, through Christ *strengthening me*. Let me *learn* from thee what I shall *teach* concerning thee. Open my understanding, O Lord,

294 *The Author for himself as a Minister.*

Lord, that I may well understand the *scripture* and *rightly* divide the word of *truth*; and be able (by sound doctrine) both to *exhort* and *convince* the gainsayers. O put such *thoughts* into my mind, and such words into my mouth, that out of the *abundance* of my heart, my mouth may speak to the *glory* of thy name, and to the *edification* of those unto whom I make my application. O make me wise to win *souls* and watchful over them, as one that must give an *account* of them; not entangling myself in the affairs of this *life*, but waiting on my *ministry*; taking heed to myself, and to my doctrine; studying to shew myself approved to God, and thoroughly *furnished* to every good work. Give me skill and *conduct*, prudent to steer my course through all *difficulties* in my way; and give me *patience* and *courage* to withstand all assaults and opposition which I have to *encounter*. O my Lord, be with me, and guide me, and help me, and strengthen and succour me, now and always, in the great *work* lying upon me. Open to me a door of *utterance*, that I may speak thy *word* as I ought to speak; and make me faithful and diligent, and successful in my *sacred* calling doing thy work as thy *workman*, that need not be ashamed; not preaching myself, but Christ Jesus the Lord; nor seeking the *praise* of men but the honour of my God; yea, make me an *example* of all the holy *properties*, and practise worthy *practices* which I *preach* to others; that I may not lay upon them the burthens which I

I refuse to *bear myself* ; but go before them in the ways which they are to *follow* ; holding forth the word of life in my *conversation*, as well as in my *doctrine* ; that I may shine with a *convincing light* to them, and not lay a *stumbling-block* before them ; neither making the heart of the *righteous* sad, nor strengthening the hands of the *wicked* ; nor giving just *offence* to any, but approving myself, as far as I am able, useful and *beneficial* unto all ; keeping under my *body*, and bringing it into *subjection*, lest that by any means, when I have *preached* to others, I myself should be a *castaway*.

And, O thou that givest the *increase*, command a *blessing* (I pray thee) upon all my studies and endeavours, that I may not spend my strength for *nought*, nor labour in vain ; but that I may make full *proof* of my ministry, and be instrumental (through thy grace) to *convert* the unconverted, and to *build up* them that are in any measure *sanctified* ; and so, to save myself, and those that hear me, that, when I have finished my *course*, I may give an account of my *Rewardship* with joy, and not with grief ; and receive the *crown* of righteousness at thy hands, not for my *merits*, but for thy *mercies* sake. *Amen, Amen.*

A Prayer for a blessing upon the Societies Confederate, to promote Reformation of Manners.

O RIGHTEOUS Lord, thou lovest righteousness, and thy *countenance* does behold the upright. Thou favourest them that espouse the

296 *For a Blessing upon the Societies,*

the righteous cause, and wilt for ever glorify such as turn many to *righteousness*. Thou hast not only commanded us to be holy, and to walk circumspectly ourselves, but also to shew our concern for the souls of others ; to contend for the *faith*, and contend with the *wicked*, and not sulk sin upon our *brother* ; but apply our endeavours to convert the *sinner* from the error of his *ways* ; and to recover those out of the snare of the *devil*, who have been taken captive by him at his will.

Help, Lord, for the godly man ceaseth, and the faithful fail from among the children of men ; even all seek their own ; and O how few the things that are Jesus Christ's ! Arise, O God, and plead thy own cause ; and be with them that rise up against the evil-doers, and that strive to do good to this present *evil* world, by a merciful severity, to restrain the unruly from *undoing* themselves ; and by executing *judgment*, to stay the plague and wrath gone out from the Lord against us all. Plead their cause, O Lord, with them that strive with them, and stand up for their help ; and stop the way against them that *persecute* them ; and make them successful to promote the honour of thy great name, and the interest of thy holy religion.

O that none of the correctors of others may deserve like *censure* themselves ! but that they may all be *blameless* and *harmless* ; the sons of God without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom they may
shine

ine as lights in the world. O give them a tender love to the souls of men ; a zeal, according to knowledge, and prudent conduct to walk in wisdom towards them that are without. And give them good courage to endure the contradiction of sinners, and count it a small thing to be *judged* of man's *judgment*, and help them in their patience to possess their *souls*, and in *meekness* to instruct those that oppose themselves ; and make the *weapons* of their warfare mighty through God, to the pulling down *strong holds*. And so speed them with thy heavenly blessing, that how small soever was their *beginning*, their *latter end* may greatly increase. O let them go forth in thy *strength*, and prevail and prosper, as the *blessed* of the Lord.

Though we are cast into the dregs of time, when godliness declines, and iniquity abounds ; and almost all abomination grows daring and impudent : yet, thou, Lord, that dost marvelous things, can bring *light* out of *darkness* ; and when thou pleasest, canst change the face of evil times. Yea, glorious things are spoken of the last day ; and thy word foretells such a holy and happy state of things, even upon earth, as this sinful and wretched world does not yet seem to have been blest with.

O when shall it be, Lord ; when shall *judgment* return to righteousness, and all the upright in heart follow it ? O when shall the wickedness of the wicked come to an end ? and profaneness and lewdness, debauchery, and immorality,

intemperance and extravagance, be put to confusion ; *and all iniquity stop her mouth*, and the righteous flourish, *and Jerusalem be the joy and praise of the whole earth !*

The Lord *basten it in his time* ; and in the mean while give a check from heaven to the floods of ungodliness, that have lifted up their voice and their waves ; and say to those proud waters, *Hither shall ye go, and no further !*

O cherish and prosper all good beginnings, and all hopeful proceedings for the furtherance of piety, and for the advancement of thy *glory*. Make magistrates and ministers, and all orders of men, vigilant and diligent in keeping their own hearts, and ordering their own conversations aright ; and also to set forward (what in them lies) the reformation and edification of their neighbours ; that all may account it, not only their duty, but their honour and pleasure, to have their hands in this blessed glorious work, and may do it heartily, as to the Lord to the bettering of the world, and to the rejoicing of all that (in sincerity) do love our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for our Benefactors.

I DESIRE with all thankfulness to acknowledge thy loving-kindness, O Lord, my God, that thou hast given me so many *comfort* and raised me up so many *friends*, and help in the world. 'Tis thou, Lord, who hast the hearts of all in thy hands, that turnest th
her

Hearts of any to shew me *favour*, and to do me *good*. They are but the *instruments* and means of conveyance ; but thou art the blessed Author and *original* Fountain of all the kindness : to thee, therefore, where alone it is due, I give the glory and offer the sacrifice of *praise*. But for them, whom thou hast enabled, and also *inclined* to benefit and pleasure me, I am obliged to offer up the sacrifice of *my prayers*. O be thou kind to *them*, Lord, as they have been kind to *me* : refresh their *Souls*, as they have refreshed *mine* ; and requite their love, and all their endearing offices of *Friendship sevenfold* into their bosoms. Make *studious* ever to approve myself *grateful* ; and ready to make all fitting *returns* in my power. And be thou pleased, O blessed God, infinitely good, to *reward* them where I cannot : yea, turn all the *advantages* I have had from them to their own greatest *advantage*. And for their goodness and their kind favours, give them not only *temporal* mercies, but *heavenly* blessings, and *everlasting* consolations. O give them Christ, and all the good things of thy spirit that accompany *salvation* ; yea, give them thy own *self*, Lord, who art *All in all*, to be their blessed glorious *portion* for evermore. Amen.

A Prayer for our pious Friends.

GLORY be to thee, O Lord, for thy *grace*, discovered upon any of my *friends*. O how great is thy *goodness*, which thou hast

laid up for them that *fear* thee, which
 hast wrought for them that trust in thee,
 fore the so ns of men. Save thy people, and
 thy *inheritance* : Feed them also, and lift t
 up for ever. Let none that wait on the
 Lord, be ashamed ; but let all that seek t
rejoice and be glad in thee, and ever
 cause to say, the Lord be magnified, who
 pleasure in the *prosperity* of his *servants*. (C
 good to them that are *good*, and to them
 are *upright* in their heart. And continue
 loving-kindness, Lord, to all such as
 chose the *better part* ; and still desire to k
 and fear, and love thee *more*, and to serve
 please thee *better*. O answer them in the w
 of their hearts, whose hearts thou knowe
 be set upon the *increase* of thy grace and
 fecting *holiness* in thy fear. Lead them
 from strength to strength, from one de
 of saving knowledge and grace to anot
 till (from shining here as *lights* in the w
 they come to shine as the *stars*, and as
 brightness of the *firmament*, in the kingdo
 their Father, for ever and ever. And v
 they are in the *world*, O do thou keep t
 good Lord, from the evil of it ; and bless
 prosper all their designs and endeavour
 do still more and more *good* in it ; tha
 about them may be the *better* for them,
 that themselves, when come to the en
 their *pilgrimage* here, may depart in peace,
 hope and joy ; and find their *grace* excha
 for the crown of glory that fades not aw

mong all the redeemed and blessed of the Lord; where they will admire and enjoy thy love, and extol and magnify thy name for evermore. Amen.

1 Prayer for our Friend whose Soul we fear to be in a dangerous Condition.

O LORD, it was a mighty concernment upon the spirit of thy holy apostle, that made him declare, he had *great heaviness and continual sorrow in his heart, and could wish himself accursed from Christ, for his brethren, his kinsmen according to the flesh*: and somewhat like o his, thou knowest I feel in myself, with reference to some of my relations, especially my poor friend ———, who seems to be even in the *gall of bitterness, and the bond of iniquity*: setting himself in a way that is far from good, and lying under the danger to be or ever lost: O what shall I do for him? and how shall I apply myself to be *helpful* to him? I would be taught of God; and I desire to learn wisdom of thee, my Lord, and to be enabled by thy *grace*, to use the *methods* and *expedients* that shall be most probable and successful to work upon him, and to do him good. O instruct me in the way that I shall take, and assist and bless me in the means and endeavours I shall use to attain this desirable end.

Yea, thou great Almighty God, who workest all in all, and canst do whatever thou pleasest,

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to enlighten the *darkest* mind, to fashion the *hardest* hearts, conquer the *stubbornest* will, and to turn even the most *hopeless* sinners to themselves ; O be thou pleased to shew the *irresistible efficacy* of thy heavenly grace in the case that is so sad, and worthy of thyself to relieve. Be pleased, O Lord, to break in powerfully upon him, and *discover* to him what is an with him ; and make him to know the *danger* of his sins, and in what condition his *soul*. And open, Lord, his *eyes*, and soften his *heart*, and *turn* his *course*, and break the force of *temptations* ; and so make him a way to escape out of the enemy's hands ; that even the *deaf* may hear the voice of the Son of God and live. That the presumptuous may be startled, and the secure awakened, and he that is so far gone yet recovered : Yea, that the *lost sheep* may be brought home, and the sinner so repentant be converted, that his sins may be *blotted* out, and his soul be thoroughly *healed*, and mercifully *accepted*, and eternally *saved*.

O gracious God, thou hast no pleasure in the death of the *wicked*, but art reconciled in the Son of thy love, to the very worst of thy *enemies*, and not willing that any should perish. O what profit is there in his *blow* ! how shall the *dead* and *damned* praise thee, Lord of all power and mercy, get thee glory in his recovery. O speak the word, and the sinful creature shall live, and for ever bless thy name. Dear Father, forgive him all the *thoughts* and *devices* of his heart, and all
offer

ffensive wicked carriage of his life. Forgive him all his sins of omission and commission ; and bring him out of all the ways of wickedness and ruin, into which he hath struck out : O bring him at last, with purpose of heart, to *reign* and give up himself to the Lord : and make him diligent to *retrieve* himself, and full of care for his *soul*, and very conscientious and zealous in all the practices of piety and honesty, and charity and sobriety ; whereby he may approve himself to be truly *changed*, and quite another manner of person than he has been, in all *holy conversation and godliness*.

O grant him an inheritance among them that are *sanctified*, through faith in Christ Jesus ; and send down that *renewing* grace into his heart, which may be there as a *well of water*, springing up to *everlasting life*. Thus comfort and rejoice the soul of thy servant, O Lord, who does wait upon thee, and cry unto thee, for such thy saving mercy, to be shewn upon me and mine (particularly upon this near *ally*, whom I bewail and recommend to thy grace ;) even for thy own *mercy's sake*, in the great Lover and Saviour of souls, who came to seek the *lost*, and to call sinners to repentance, even thy dearly beloved Son our blessed Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for the Unconverted.

O LORD God, gracious and merciful ! thou art good to all ; and thy tender *mercies* are over all thy works. And thou hast assured

assured us, that thou hast no pleasure in the death of the *wicked* ; but that he should turn from his way and *live*. Yea, thou that didst call *Zaccheus* an old sinner, and *Saul* a fierce persecutor, hast the power over all hearts in thy hands, to *fashion* them as thou wilt ; and canst, even out of *stones*, raise up children to *Abraham* ; and make *eminent* saints out of the very *wildest* sinners. O *Father of mercies*, pity poor *sinners* that have not hearts to pity themselves : open their eyes to see the *error* of their ways, and the *danger* of their case : soften their *hearts* into a *penitent* concernment for their *sin* ; and awaken them into a timely *care* of their *souls*. O let thy spirit *convince* them how bad it is with them ; and set their *sin*s in order before them ; that they may know their transgressions, and what is the *wages* of sin, and the dreadful portion of all ungodly men ; and know where their *help* lies, and what they must do to be *saved* : and the Lord make them *faithful* to their convictions ; that they may not hold the *truth in unrighteousness* ; but make haste to do what they are convinced is necessary to be done for their poor sinking souls, before it be too *late*.

O good God, give *repentance* to the acknowledgment of the truth, unto such as have *opposed* themselves, that they may be recovered out of the snare of the *devil*, who have been taken captive by him at his will ; that thy power and mercy may be glorified in their *conversion* and *salvation* ; and not thy truth and justice in their *ruin* and *destruction*.

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That they are so far from the kingdom of God, that they *contradict* and *blaspheme* thy truth, and stumble at thy *word*, and set it at nought ; resisting the means of their salvation, and hating and abusing the followers of Jesus ; turning again to rend thy servants : O Lord, our heavenly Father, *forgive* them, for they know not what they do. And stop and *turn* them as thou didst the persecuting Saul, when he was *mad* against the saints, and verily thought with himself that he ought to do many things *contrary* to the name of Jesus. Put them in fear, O Lord, that they may know themselves to be but *chaff* and *stubble* before thee our God, a *consuming fire*. And bring down their high looks, subdue their stiff *necks*, and break their hardened *hearts*, to make them to *submit* unto thee, that they may not be *slain* before thee.

And such as think they are rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing ; and know not that they are wretched and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked ; O Lord, discover them to themselves, and shew them the true state of their souls ; that they may be sorrowfully concerned for their sins, and apprehend the peril they are in, and timely seek out for help, and *flee* from the wrath to come.

Such as are ignorant and out of the way, and, to do their souls good, have no knowledge, Lord, have compassion on them ; and call them out of darkness, into thy marvellous light, *that they may not perish for lack of knowledge.*

O let them be taught of God to know thee and themselves, and the things belonging to their peace, before they be hid from their eyes. O thou that commandest the light to shine out of *darkness*, be pleased to shine into their hearts; shew them thy ways, and lead them in thy *truth*, that they may not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Such as are in pernicious errors, and damnable *heresies*, departed from the faith once delivered to the saints; having their minds corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ; perverting the truth, as it is in Jesus; and not only *swerving* from the pure doctrine of the *gospel* themselves, but also lying in wait to *seduce* and deceive others. O Father of lights, take away the *veil* which is upon their hearts, that they may see wherein they have *erred*, and come to receive the truth in the *love* of it, and earnestly *contend* for the *faith*, which they once *destroyed*.

The prosperous worldlings and secure sinners, settled upon their lees, that are at ease in their possessions, and admire and *doat* upon the worldly good, as if it were the chief and only good; applauding themselves in their portion that they have in this *life*, as if they had no need of God, nor to take care for any other *heaven*; O dear Father, shew them how base is their *choice*, so to go a whoring from the Lord; and how rotten the *foundation*, on which at present they stand. O make them to know that the *friendship* of the world is enmity with
God.

and ; and that all this world can never either satisfy the desire, or recompence for the loss of soul : yea, open their eyes, O Lord, to see how the *fashion* of this world passeth away ; and how soon all that wherein they *trust* and *right* will be utterly gone, as if it had never been ! and what multitudes by forsaking of God to cleave unto Mammon, miscarry, and are *lost* for ever ; *drowned* in that destruction and perdition, from whence there is no *redemption* : that they may be checked and cooled in their pursuit and love of the *world*, and flee from its snares, for the life of their *souls* ; and leave all for Christ, and the everlasting *glory* to come ; that they may not be *condemned* with the world, but *saved* in the great day of the Lord.

And such as the loose and profane, and *undulous* in their lives, making bold to *rebel* against Heaven, and committing all uncleanness with *greediness* ; scoffing at the *followers* of Jesus, and deriding all that is serious and holy, and needful to the *saving* of the soul ; refusing to be *ashamed*, and hating to be *reformed* ; how dangerous and *desperate* soever seems their case ; yet, Lord, it is not past thy *help* and *cure*, whoallest those things that are *not*, as if they were ; who canst change the *leopard's* spots, and the Ethiopian's skin ; yea, and bring not only something out of *nothing*, but the greatest *evil* even out of the worst *evil*. O ! where sin *abounds*, may thy grace much more *abound*. Thou, Lord God Almighty, do the great work

of thy grace, to *heal* such wounds and bruises, and putrifying sores ; and to *recover* the ruinous sinners, so *far gone*, under such deadly distempers, that the *prodigals* may come to themselves, and arise, and go to their Father ; that such as were *dead* may be *alive* again, and such as were *lost* may be *found* ; that they may yet turn from their *evil* ways and come to see the *beauties* of holiness, and delight to do thy blessed *will*, O God, and obtain an inheritance among them that are sanctified, through faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for all that desire our Prayers.

O LORD God of the spirits of all flesh thy word requires us to pray for others as well as for ourselves ; and to call upon thee as our common Father in Jesus Christ. Although I am unworthy to speak to thy heavenly Majesty, O most High, either for myself, or others ; yet, in the sense of thy mercy and the *obligation* of my duty and charity, take upon me to become an humble *petitioner* to thee, my Lord, in behalf of all such that desire to be partakers of my prayers : O that they may share in thy rich mercies, according to their several wants and necessities. They are known to thee by name ; O let them be known of thee in the number of thy *children*. Thou knowest what they most need, and chiefly desire ; O thou gracious Giver of all good things, answer them in the desires of their hearts.

For the Blessing of our intended Marriage. 309

as they desire the things that are *meet* and *good*; and where they desire what is unfitting and hurtful, convince them of their error, that at they may not persist in it. And where they see not the things of their *peace*, or are led to that which is most for their *good*, O Lord, show them the *saving* way, and grant them a *love* for it, and true *zeal* to follow it. Bless them, gracious Father, with so much of the *world's good*, as thou knowest to be *good* for them; but especially remember them with the *love* which thou bearest to thy *people*. Instruct them, Lord, in the knowledge of thy *will*, and what they must do to be *saved*; and make them faithful to *practise* according to the light which thou art pleased to give them; yea, incline their hearts to take pleasure in the performance of their *duty*. Bless them, O God of all grace, with that grace and favour of thine, which is *life*, and with all spiritual blessings heavenly things in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Prayer for the Blessing of our intended Marriage.

MY God, thy bountiful favours have exceeded all my *expectations*, as well as *my deservings*: and though I have wretchedly *abused* thy kindness and love, yet still thou art able to be gracious; and art not weary to *show mercy*. Now thy good providence, Lord, *set* the *fruition* before me, which looks *hopeful* upon me, and for good to me. If thou

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knowest it to be so indeed, O Lord of love, *promote* and bring it to pass. And, that thou mayest bless and prosper my *designs*, grant that I may proceed in thy *fear* and *favour*; so as shall be for the *glory* of thy name, and the eternal *welfare* of myself, and thy *servant*, whom my thoughts and affections are set upon. O give me such a *partner* of my fortunes as may be a blessing to me, for this life and a better. And make us truly *beneficial* and comfortable to one another in all the best respects, pertaining to our *chiefest* good. Grant, Lord, that we may be *helps meet* for each other, in reference to both worlds; and that our love may be sincere without guile; *pure* without lust; and *lasting* without decay. O thou that fashionest all hearts, unite our affections upon such just and *worthy* accounts, as may make them firm and durable to the *end*. Wed us both to thy *blessed Self*, as well as to one another, that our marriage may be in the Lord; and not *separate* us from, but bring us nearer to our God. O grant us new *supplies* of thy grace for this new *estate* of our lives, that we may fill up the *relation* into which we are entering with all suitable duty; that we may not only be faithful, in still keeping the *marriage-bed* undefiled, but be *mutual* helps and comforts, both in the temporal and spiritual concerns; and even *conspire* together, to pleasure and honour, and benefit one another: and, above all, to glorify and praise thee our God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Husband's Prayer.

ACCCEPT my humble thanks to thee, Lord my God, who has provided a *help meet* for me, that is thy gift; and such a one as thy good *providence* hast appointed to be my partner in the nearest relation. O teach and enable me, in all things, to carry myself towards her as behoves and becomes me in this *station*; to love and cherish her as my *own flesh*; and not to *despise* her, not to be *bitter* against her; but to *bear* with her infirmities, and *forbear* her in love, and all gentleness. Nor let me insult over her as an inferior; but mildly use my authority, in treating her as my dear *yoke fellow* and *companion*. Not rigid in opposing of her; but comply with her, and condescending to her in all her reasonable desires and expectations. O make me *meek* and *patient* with her; *faithful* and *kind* to her; respectful and tender of her, and well-pleased and satisfied in her: that she may find the refreshment and benefit of my *fellowship*, and not bewail but rejoice in her *choice*; to forsake all other for my *sake*. O blessed Lord, *espouse* my dear friend to thyself, in loving-kindness and faithfulness, and tender mercies. Bless her and love her, and make her lovely to thyself, and to all; especially make her like the *king's* daughter, glorious *within*, that she may not only appear well here, but be most blessed for ever; and grant, O Lord our God, that we

may be lovers of one another's souls, and promoters of each other's salvation ; so that after a short conversation here, we may meet again with rejoicing there, where we shall never part, even in that fulness of joy which is in thy presence ; where, though there be no *marrying*, nor giving in *marriage*, yet is there greater festivity and gladness, than in any day of espousals ; and all heavenly sweets, and the highest pleasures for evermore. Amen.

The Wife's Prayer.

O MY God, thou hast called me to this state of life ; and it is the disposal of thy providence, that I should be joined in *wedlock* with thy *servant*. I bless thee, Lord, that thou hast dealt well with me, and provided graciously for me. O continue thy goodness to me, in giving me knowledge and grace to demean myself aright in this *relation*, that I may honour and obey the Lord in reverencing and obeying my *husband* ; submitting to him in all things not forbidden by thee ; speaking of him, and to him, with such words, to signify the high esteem and dear love that I have for him : and so comporting myself, as to give him content, and increase his delight ; that he may not only be satisfied with me, but take pleasure in me : and in any occasions of *offence*, with silence, or soft obliging words, let me *quench* the flames ; so preserving *peace*. O give me the ornament of a *meek* and *quiet* spirit ;
such

such as may not only make me sweet and amiable at present, but also prevent all shameful and mischievous *effects*. O make me *humble* and *modest*, *discreet* and *considerate*, *careful* and *diligent*, *faithful* and *constant*, *mild* and *patient*; remembering not only the *duties* and *comforts*, but also the *temptations* and *crosses* of the married condition: and taking the *worse* with the *better*, as a part of my *portion*; still shewing myself a follower of wise and pious *matrons* in all things that are of good *report*, however I am *tried* with prosperity or adversity. Bless my dear *partner*, O Lord, with the best of thy blessings; and love him, and keep him in thy continual *care*, till thou bring him to thy heavenly *kingdom*. O bind us both in faithfulness unto thee, as well as to one another: and as we are one *flesh*, so make us of one *heart*, and of one *soul*, that nothing but *death* may ever make a *separation* between us. And let us not hold together only upon the *worldly* account, but also, and especially upon the *religious* and *godly*; to admire, and love, and serve, and glorify, and please thee our God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for a Woman in Travail.

O ALMIGHTY Lord God, who bringest to the *birth*, and givest *strength* to *bring forth*; shew favour, we beseech thee, to thy servant, in the time of her need and *distress*; and be not far from her when trouble is nigh

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to her, and lies *fore* and heavy upon her : but let her experience thy *help* at hand, according to the *necessity* of her case. O mitigate the pangs, and make them *tolerable* to her ; and *support* and relieve her under the pain and *pressure* that are so grievous to be borne by her. And grant her, Lord, a timely, safe, and happy deliverance of the offspring wherewith she travails, that she may see the *fruit* of her *womb* with such comfort and joy, as may make her *forget* the past anguish and sorrow ; and with a truly thankful heart give thee the *glory* of such thy *mercy*, who dost things worthy of God, and makest thy servants a way to escape out of the dangers that threaten to *destroy* them. Or shouldest thou turn things *contrary* to these our desires, which we humbly present before thee ; shouldst thou refuse to hear us begging for the *life* of thy handmaid, and make this unexpected *birth* prove the cause of her *death* ; yet hear us, O Lord, (we earnestly pray thee) for her soul, that it may be safe in thy blessed hands ; that she may be prepared for a better life ; and find the best *deliverance* of all from all sin and misery, into the perfection of holiness, and the *fulness* of joy ; there to live in thy *love*, and to sing thy *praise* for evermore. Amen.

A Thanksgiving after a safe Delivery.

BLESSED for ever be thy name, O Lord, our gracious God, who rememberest us in our low estate, and dost not abhor the
affliction

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affliction of the afflicted ; but hearest thy servants crying to thee in their distress, and sendest relief and help in time of *need*. O that we may praise thee, Lord, as we ought, for such thy goodness and wonderful works to the children of men ! Thou bringest down, and raisest up ; thou givest *trouble* and sendest *comfort* ; throwest down under *fears* and *griefs*, and again revivest our *hopes* and *joys*. Thou, O God, art good in all, and worthy to be *admired* and *praised* in every *dispensation* of thy providence ! but chiefly we are affected with thy seasonable *aids* of our misery, when thou givest us beauty for ashes, the oil of gladness for mourning, and the garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness ; so thou hast now (blessed be thy name !) refreshed thy afflicted *band-maid*, and rejoiced the souls of thy *servants*. And here we offer up unto thee, O gracious Lord, all our devout *acknowledgments* of thy loving-kindness ; and the *sacrifice* of our unfeigned thanks and praise for this sweet reviving mercy, which is as *life* from the *dead*. O that thy hand-maid, and all of us, may be duly sensible of such favour from the Lord ; and for all the great goodness and these continual obligations from above, may we give thee all the love of our hearts, and the service of our lives, and the glory due to thy blessed name, now and for evermore.
Amen.

A Prayer for our Children.

THE *children*, O Lord my God, which thou hast given me, I return, and surrender them up to thee. O that they may know thee, and be owned by thee, every one from the greatest to the least. Pour out thy *spirit* upon my *seed*, and thy *blessing* upon my *offspring*: make them, Lord, thy children by *adoption* and spiritual *regeneration*. O take possession of their hearts, and season their tender years with thy heavenly grace: and teach those who have the teaching of them, that they may be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and trained up in the way that they should go. I have helped to bring them into the world, *children of wrath*: O that thou wouldst make me *instrumental* to set them up in thy church the *children of grace*. Lord have mercy upon them, and speak life to their souls, and whatsoever else they want: O let them have thy grace and the portion of thy *children*. My God! be thou a gracious Father to them, and a merciful Provider for them in all estates, all affairs and events of their lives. Dispose of them, and whatever concerns them, to thy *glory* and to the *promoting* of their *salvation* everlasting.

Shouldst thou take them from hence before me, O fit them for thee: and make me willing to *reign* them to thee: or if thou take me from them, O my Lord, take them up, and

an infinitely better Father to them, when
 n gone. O keep them from the evil of
 world; and conduct and bring them safe
 ough it to a better: take thou care even
 heir temporal concerns, and choose their
 rittance for them, that they may find con-
 ent being here, and an easy passage through
present life: but especially my God, take
 of their souls, and give them the blessed
 sure in heaven, that when they shall be
 rived of all here, they may be taken into
 glorious kingdom above: to live with
 , and all the heavenly host, world without
 . Amen.

A Prayer for our Parents.

LORD God, my heavenly Father, I
 here prostrate myself before thee, to beg
 blessing, grace, and mercy, upon my *earth-*
parents. Cast them not away in the time of
 old age; forsake them not when their
 ight fails them; but have compassion Lord,
 heir *infirmities*, and help them in all their
knefs. O remember not against them any of
 r *former* iniquities; but according to thy
 cy remember them for thy goodness sake in
 s Christ. O that the true wisdom may be
 them, and abundance of thy *grace* upon
 n, that their *hoary heads* may be found in
 way of righteousness, and their souls be ever
 ous in thy sight. O let goodness and mercy
 ow them all the days of their life: let their

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 O dispose them by *thy* days : and the longer they
 live in the *world*, make them still the
 nearer to me, and the *gitter* to live with thy
 blessed soul, in the glorious *life eternal*. O be
 in a *thousand* Guide until *death* ; in death their
 support and *comfort* : and when heart and flesh,
 and all here shall fail them, O do thou never
 fail them, but be the *strength* of their hearts, and
 their portion for evermore. *Amen.*

The Widow's Prayer.

 O EVER living and all disposing God ! thou
 hast taken from me the friend of my *bosom*,
 that was even as my own *soul* ; and by the
 want, now taught me the *worth* of that blessing
 which I was not so *thankful* for, nor so careful
 as I ought, to use and improve (in the enjoy-
 ment) to thy glory. I submit to thy over-
 ruling *hand*, which is always *just*, though some-
 times *heavy* (as now I feel it upon me.) O
 deliver me, Lord, from the sins which are the
 cause of thy *displeasure* ; and forgive me all
 wherein ever I have *failed* towards thee, or
 towards my dear *partner*. He was thy gift, and
 it was thy goodness, that I enjoyed, and thy
 help and comfort that I found in him : who
 canst supply to me, by *thyself*, what I received
 from thee by his *bands* ; for thou art still the
 same eternal fountain of goodness, whatever
 means of conveyance thou *cuttest* of from us
 O pity me, Lord, under the *breach* which thou
 hast been pleased to make upon me, and sup

Come in the *dejection* of my heart, and guide
 I comfort me in all the *perplexity* of my
 thoughts. Withdraw not thou thyself from
 O my God, now trouble is upon me ; but
 make even the bitter *dispensation* a happy *occasion*
 bring me nearer to thyself, by removing
 that which lay betwixt thee and my heart ;
 and to *raise* this heart of mine from the present
 world to a better (where I hope my dear *friend*
 now with the Lord :) that as a widow indeed,
 and desolate, and deprived of former helps, I
 may trust in God, and continue in *supplications*
 and *prayers* night and day. O thou that hast
 peculiar care, and tender regard for the *wi-*
ows, be pleased to espouse my concerns, and
 direct my path, and shew me what I have to
 do, and *fit* me for, and *assist* me in every duty
 now *incumbent* upon me. O let my Maker be
 my *husband* to teach me, and help to defend
 and comfort me ; to deal graciously with me,
 and to be *All* in *all* to me ; and bring me safe,
 O my God, through this *vale* of misery, to
 the blessed kingdom of thy glory, for the sake
 of thy beloved Son, my only Saviour Jesus
 Christ. Amen.

The Orphan's Prayer.

O LORD my God, thou art he that took
 me out of my *mother's* womb ; and art
 pleased to style thyself in a peculiar manner,
 the *Father of the fatherless* : now am I left unto
 thee, my *eyes* are upon thee, and I desire to

pour out my *soul* before thee, intreatin
gracious favour to have compassion on
and leave me not *desolate*, exposed to the
and *mischiefs*, and *dangers* of this wicked
miserable world : But when my *father*
mother have *forsaken* me, O Lord, do thou
me up, and be a Father, and the *best* of
thers to me, and still a gracious Provider
me. Guide me, O my *heavenly* Father
my *friends* also, that are concerned in the
posing of me and my affairs. O be thou
ed to choose my inheritance for me
order me, and all that concerns me in
glory, and to the promoting of my present
welfare, and my everlasting *happiness*.
my *designs*, that they may be agreeable to
blessed will ; and bless and prosper my
takings and endeavours, that they may succeed
according to my desire, and so as to give
occasion for thy praise. My Lord, I commend
myself to thee ! O be thou my God and Father
even unto death : be ever watchful over me
for good, and preserve and keep me, and con-
duct and lead me in all the variety of my
and affairs of this life, till thou hast brought
me to *inherit* the blessed portion of thy *inheritance*
in that most sweet and glorious life,
shall never fail. Grant this, O merciful Father
ther, for thy dear Son's sake, my only Saviour
Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Aged's Prayer.

O LORD of my life, thou art my God from the *womb*, my hope and trust from my *youth* ; by thee I was brought into the *world*, and upon thee have I lived all my *days*. O with what patience and long-suffering hast thou *endured* me ! and with what loving-kindness and tender mercies still prevented and followed me : how many have I seen snatched out of this life (as I fear) miserably *unprovided* for their death ; whereas thou *prolongest my days*, and together with more *days*, still addest new mercies to my life : O that it may be in mercy to my *soul*, that I am suffered to live so long in the world ; that as my life is lengthened out, so all that concerns my salvation may be filled up, that I may *redeem* the time, and improve all the opportunities and means of grace which thou art pleased to put into my hands, for the best profit and advantage of my soul, that my *age* may be the good old *age* ; and the remaining *time* of my sojourning here, the *best* of all my time.

Though my *sight* is dim to the world, let my *eyes* be ever towards the Lord, and open to see the things of my *peace* : though my ears are dull of hearing, let my heart be *attentive* to thy calls, and to hear thy *voice*, while it is called *to-day*. Though I cannot (as formerly) *relish* the pleasures of *meat* and *drink* ; yet let me taste the *goodness* of the Lord, and favour

the things of the Spirit of God, and hunger and thirst after *righteousness*, and those pleasures which are at thy *right-hand* for evermore. And tho my limbs are *weak*, and my strength will not serve me to *travel* abroad as I have done; yet make me strong in the Lord, to do thy *work*, and to walk in thy ways; and to perform my great *journey* home to my house eternal in the heavens: and seeing there is no man that liveth and shall not *see death*: and the longer I have escaped it, the *nearer* I am now to it, and shall one day certainly *fall* by it; and must every day *reckon* upon it, and know not but my soul this *night* may be *required* of me: O let not my *length* of days tempt me to forget their *end*; or to put my *last day* far from me: But let me keep it ever in my *prospect*, as drawing *nigh* to me; that I may order all my concerns, not only like a *stranger* and *sojourner* with thee, as all my father's were; but as a *dying* man, and ready to drop into the *grave*, waiting, watching, and preparing for the *coming* of my Lord; that at thy coming, thou mayest find me so doing.

And because I am old in *sins*, as well as in *years*; pulled down with iniquity, as well as with *age*; and the number of my *transgressions* exceeds not only my *years* and *days*, but even the *hours* of my life, and the *hairs* of my head; where I cannot (alas!) pretend to my *innocence*! O my gracious Lord, give me true *repentance*! and that *godly* sorrow for my sins, which may prevent my going down in a worse sorrow to

my *grave*. Thou hast saved many old *sinners*; O God, be so merciful to me a *sinner*. Put all my sins upon the account of thy dear Son; and wash me thoroughly from them, in the fountain of his precious *blood*. Especially, O merciful Lord, acquit and discharge me from the sins that lie *heaviest* upon me; and that make the thoughts of death and judgment most *frightful* to me. O give me, Lord, some *tokens* for good, that I shall find such *mercy* at thy hands, that I may depart in *peace*, and finish my course with *joy*, and in the *end* of my life, be numbered among the *redeemed* and *blessed* of the Lord, through the tender mercies of my God, and the all-sufficient merits of my only Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

The Child's Prayer.

O MY good God, who hast made me, have *mercy* upon me, and teach me to know thee, and incline my heart to *love* thee, and enable me in all my life to do thy *will* as I ought to do. Thou hast formed me in the womb for thyself, and in the church I have been *devoted*, and offered up to the Lord as thy dear *child*, in all duty to wait upon thee. O thou blessed *Guide* of my youth! give me thy *grace*, to understand and seek after God; yea, to seek the Lord *early*, and to remember my *Creator*, and bear the *yoke* in the days of my *youth*; that thou mayest not be unmindful of me in the time of age; but make me to

find a never-failing comfort in my latter days.
 As I grow in years and stature, so help me, O
 Lord, to grow in wisdom and grace, and in
 favour with God and men. O keep me from
 the evil of this world, and carry me safe to
 it to thy heavenly kingdom. Make me ob-
 dient and tractable to my parents and teachers,
 and lowly, and respectful, and courteous to
 all: and bleis me, and help me, Lord, in my
 learning of all such things as shall stand me
 stead, and do me good. O my heavenly Fa-
 ther! take care of me, and provide for me,
 and so dispose of me in the world, that I may
 be useful, and serviceable in my generation,
 and a blessing to the place where thy providence
 shall settle my abode. Preserve me, O Lord,
 from the infection of bad examples, that
 I may not be led away, and enticed to follow
 the ungodly despisers of thy laws and religion;
 but make me a lover and follower of such
 as are good and godly, and a pattern of all that
 is commendable for others imitation. O God,
 thou knowest my foolishness, and seest how weak
 I am; O look not upon my follies, nor remem-
 ber the sins of my youth; but have pity on my
 infirmities, and pass by my failings. And that
 that out of the mouths of babes and sucklings be
 ordained strength, O magnify thy power in my
 weakness, and make me a profitable member of
 society, and the instrument of thy glory. Learn
 me not, O Lord, to myself, in the hands of
 my own counsel; but let me be taught of God
 how to behave myself, and what to do: an

take thou the gracious *charge* and *guidance*, and *government* of me ; and keep my heart still in thy fear and love ; and direct all my ways to please thee, my God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer to be used by the Rich and Great.

O LORD, the gracious Giver of all our good things ! thou hast opened thy hand to me in a *bountiful* manner, and givest me all things plenteously to enjoy : so that I am full, and *abound* in the store wherein many of my neighbours are *indigent* and wanting : O that this plenty, which I have for my *body*, may be in mercy and love to my *soul* ! And that I may not be put off with my portion in this life, nor rest in the *gifts*, forgetting and slighting the blessed Giver ! for better I never had the world's *good*, if I am never the *better* for it. And the more I have, the sadder *account* I shall make, if I do not *good* to myself and others with it. The *prosperity* of fools destroy them. O good God ! grant that this may not be my *case*, that I may not so abuse my prosperous circumstances to *rebel* against thee, my Lord, with thy own *bounty* ; and carry *worst* towards thee, when thou dealest best with me. I am thy steward, O Lord ; grant, I beseech thee, that I may be found *faithful* in what is committed to my trust ; that I may honour thee with my *substance*, and serve the ends of thy holy *religion*, in my prosperous condition. O that

with the *fulness* put into my hands, *lean* may not be sent into my soul ! That I may not wax proud and wanton, and careless seeking after a *better* world ; when I am so *provided* in this ! O let not my riches *choke* thy grace, nor dull my zeal in thy service. But the more thou hast done for me, my God make me the more careful to approve thy *thankfulness* of my heart to thee ; and the more concerned to *please* thee, and the more fearful to *offend* thee. Seeing thou hast pronounced it so *hard* for the *rich* to enter into thy kingdom, O keep me in continual *vigilance*, escape the temptations and dangers to which I am exposed in this condition. And teach me, good Lord ! how to abound, and to use this world without *abusing* it. That the *best* provisions may not (through my folly) become snares and hindrances to my *soul* ; but by thy mercy may be helps and encouragements to my *duty*.

O let me not *trust* in uncertain riches, *value* myself upon what I have of the *world* but be covetous after the true *treasure* of heavenly grace and love ; and count all this but loss and dung, that I may win Christ, be rich in *good works*, and abound in the fruit of *righteousness*. As thou fillest me with *good* things, so fill my heart with thy *love* and *grace*, to use every gift aright to thy *glory*, and hast made me so much to *differ* from multitudes of poor creatures here in the world. *let me not despise any above whom thou dost*

ished kindness has raised me ; but give me heart to *condescend* to them of low estate : and amidst all my plenty to be cloathed with *humility*, and forward to all the offices of *charity* ; ready to *communicate*, willing to *distribute*, laying up in store the good *foundation* against the time to come, that I may lay hold upon *eternal life* ; and so making me *friends* of the unrighteous *mammon*, that when I fail, they may receive me into *everlasting* habitations. Whatsoever I have in the world, O that I may have it, Lord, with thy leave and love, sanctified to me by the word of God and prayer ; and by a right use and conscientious improvement of it to the honour of thy name, from whom every good and perfect gift does descend. O let me never gain the world at the hazard and loss of my soul ; but rather than so, let me be stripped of all which I have in this life, that I may inherit the heavenly treasure and life eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer to be used by such as are Poor and Low in the World.

O LORD, the great Disposer of all our *estates* and concerns ! thy Providence appoints every one their several stations ; and it is thy will that there should be *poor* and *low*, as well as *rich* and *high*, in the world. One thing is *needful* ; and it is not what we have of the *world*, but what we are towards God, that will do us *good*, and make us *happy*. If thou

thou shower not down *plenty* upon me, yet, Lord, give me what is *needful* and *convenient* for me. And however thou dealest by me for the things of this *life*, O deny me not the riches of thy *grace*, and the saving good of thy *chosen*, which is better than thousands of *gold* and *silver*. Teach me, my God, to suffer *need*, without *repining* at my lot, or *coveting* what I have not, or envying those that have it. O make me *contented* with my portion, and not aggrieved to be *obscure* and *mean* in the world ; so that I may be known to *heaven*, and accepted in the sight of thee, my God, through Jesus Christ. Let me never stretch out my hand to *iniquity*, nor seek to help myself, by any *dishonest* ways of getting ; but choose rather to be *poor* than *wicked* ; and to want my *daily bread*, rather than thy *heavenly grace* : casting all my care upon *thee*, and trusting to thy Fatherly care, to provide for me. . Let me *labour*, working with my hands, the thing which is good (in all that I can) to minister to my necessities : and may the blessing *succeed* and prosper all my honest designs, and poor endeavours.

And the *less* I have of this world, O let me be in greater *care* to lay out and labour for an infinitely *better* ! that I who have no *inheritance* upon earth, may be made meet to be a *partaker* of the inheritance of thy saints in *light* ; that I may not lose *both* worlds, nor pass from my *small* things here, to be out of *all* forever ; but may have my treasure in *heaven*, and thy blessed self, O Lord, to be my portion for ever ;
bein

being found among those *poor* of this world, whom thou hast *chosen*, that are rich in *faith*, and heirs of the *kingdom*, which thou hast promised to them that love thee.

And blessed be thy name, O righteous God ! that with thee there is no *respect* of persons ; but the *poor* are as capable of it as the *rich* ; yea, when it is so *hard* for the *rich* to enter, that thou hast put out of my way many of the *snares* and *temptations* that hinder others. And my *poverty* cannot keep me out of thy *glory* ; but when I am also poor in *spirit*, as well as *low* in the world, I have thy *promise* of the kingdom of heaven. My God ! grant me that *poverty* of spirit, and those *better* things that accompany salvation ; and then how *short* soever I am kept in this life, *thy will be done* : though I have nothing to *depend* upon in the world ; yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the *God of my salvation* ; having thee for my God, and *chiefest* good, and my most gracious Father in Jesus Christ. O Lord, give me *thyself*, and then I have *all* ; and for that *best* of gifts, will *blest* thy name for evermore. Amen.

The Master of a Family his Prayer.

O MOST high God, the great Lord of all, whose providence disposes the several *ranks* of men in the world ; and thy word gives rules to *masters*, as well as *servants*, how to demean themselves in their respective places.

'Tis thou, my Lord, who hast made me the *head* of this house ; O that I may walk in it with an *upright* heart ; and not shelter any ill thing *offensive* to God or man, under my roof ! but countenancing the *pious*, correcting the *vicious*, and yielding myself a *pattern* of all that good which ought to be seen in the rest ; let me so command my *children*, and my *household* after me, that they may keep the *way of the Lord*. And as for me and my house, let us ever in faithfulness *serve the Lord*. O that there may not be a *hypocrite*, nor an unrenewed *profane* person among us. Let not me that am called a master, myself *serve sin*, nor be enslaved by my own passions and lust ; but have the dominion over *myself* ; and keep my eyes ever waiting upon the *Lord my God*, even as the eyes of *servants* are to the hands of their *masters*.

O that my *wife* may be the spouse of *Christ* ; my *children* the *children of God* ; my *servants* the *servants of the Lord* ! and all the members of my *family* the true members of thy *church*, and the constant followers of all that is *laudable* and *good*. Let me not carry myself with *rigour* and a high hand, nor despise the cause even of my *servants* ; but with *patience* and fairness hear them ; and give unto them that which is *just* and *equal*, knowing that I also have a *Master in heaven*. Let me not *insult* over any that are under the *yoke* ; nor be *severe* and cruel to them ; nor oppress or defraud them in their *wages*, nor any *rewards* or *encouragements* that they

may justly expect from me. But let my things with them, and my usage of them, *Bright and candid, merciful and kind*; taking of their bodies and their *souls*, of their maintenance and their carriage, and all that *governs* them as their benign *patron*, and as *faithful* friend: and treating them with due regard, as my brethren and *fellow servants*, and my equals in the *worship* of God, in whom is no respect of persons. O give, Lord, an understanding *heart*, and *prudent conduct*, and such a spirit of government, that may go in and out before my people as one that is taught of God, and commanding nothing but *in the Lord*, according to thy *will*, and for the advancement of thy glory.

O bless my *house*, Lord, and preserve it from *vice* and *ungodliness*, and from all *disorders* and *disturbances*, and make it a *nursery* of virtue and piety, and all that is exemplary, and of good report. Direct, O God, and help us every one in the *discharge* of our several offices; that we may employ ourselves as we ought, and with *quietness* do our own business; never forgetting, but above all respecting and pursuing the great *work* of the Lord, for which thou hast sent us into the *world*. O keep us all the more in thy *fear* and *love*; safe under thy *protection*, and upon the holy way to thy *heavenly glory*; through thy mercy to us all, in our *union* Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Servant's Prayer.

O GOD, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth ! it is the *ordination* of thy good providence, that there should be various ranks and degrees of men ; and that I should be disposed of in the *station* where now I am. Wherefore I submit, Lord, to thy most wise *appointment* of all things ; and desire (with content and thankfulness) to accept of my *portion*, how *low* soever in the world. If my blessed Redeemer, who is Lord of all, would take upon him the form of a *servant*, and condescend even to the *meanest* offices for the service of our *souls* ; O why should I be agrieved to be a *servant* under the yoke ? when in serving *man* as I ought, I do also serve the Lord : and though *bound* to others I may be the Lord's *freeman* : yea, in faithfully discharging the duties of my *place*, I shall be as *acceptable* to my God as any that enjoy the *highest* station. I leave it to thee, O Lord of all, to *choose* my inheritance for me. Only I beg at thy hands that my *lot* may fall where my *soul* may prosper, though I work or fare the *harder*. For if my soul do *well*, I shall be for ever *happy*. If my heart be *right* with God, I shall have his blessed *countenance* and love. And if I be found in the way of *righteousness*, I shall be *exalted* in due time, however *abased* at present. O my *supreme* Lord ! let it not be so much my care to get *higher* in the world, as to get more in thy *favour*, wherein is life. Let it be more my
concern

concern, to fill my place, and discharge my duty with faithfulness, than to change it for more *ease, profit, or honour.*

O let me not be the *servant* of sin, but enjoy the blessed liberty wherewith Christ Jesus sets all his people *free* ; the liberty from *sinful* bondage, the liberty to follow my Lord *carefully*, and to run the way of thy commands with an *enlarged* heart. And, Lord, be thou pleased to fit me for, and teach and help me in the *service* to which I am called ; that I may perform it to the *glory* of thy name, to the *pleasure* and *welfare* of those whom I serve, and my own true advantage and comfort. O make me true and faithful, careful and diligent, humble and obedient, meek and patient, fair and peaceable ; doing the business of my place, not with *eye-service* as a man-pleaser ; but in singleness of heart, *fearing* God. Not cross and froward, but apt to bear, and deny myself ; not answering again, to stir up *wrath* ; but with silence and submission, following the things that make for *peace* ; not *debaasing*, my master to set off *myself* ; nor doing him any *damage*, for my own *silly* *lucre*, or fleshly pleasure ; but tendering his *credit* and *interest*, as one that would be found *faithful* in the sight of my God, who evermore seekest in *secret*, and searchest the very *heart* : and make me (I beseech thee) such every way towards thee, that thou mayest mercifully *accept* me, and all my service, for the sake of thy beloved Son, my blessed Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Soldier's Prayer.

O LORD God of Hosts ! who hast all the creatures in heaven and in earth ready to fight thy *battles*, and execute thy *pleasure* ! thou didst not sow any seeds of *enmity* in our nature ; but didst create man endued with all the principles of love and dispositions to *peace*. 'Tis from our lust and *sins*, that the *wars* and *fightings* come amongst us. First we fell out with our God, and our own *happiness* ; and ever since it is a contentious *quarrelsome* world that we live in, where restless men are *jostling* one another, and striving for that *ease* and *content* which the world has not for them. Now that I am in this *military* station, O Lord, instruct and enable me to behave myself therein as I ought. O make me the faithful Soldier of Jesus Christ, in that spiritual warfare, wherein I am to combat with the enemies that war against my *soul*. And that I may have *peace* with my God, let me have *no peace* with my *sins*, nor any part or consent with the rebels against Heaven ; nor be carried away with any ungodly examples, into such *wickedness*, against which thou, O God, hast declared thy *wrath* from heaven. O grant that I may never so strive with my Maker, nor allow myself in such a habit of mind, and course of life, as are *enmity* against God ; but ever dread more to fall into thy *hands* than theirs, that can but *kill the body* ; and shew myself the more zealous

for thee the more I see others set themselves against thee. O Lord most high ! make me *valiant* for thy cause, as we'll as th t for *man*, wherein I am now *engaged*. And preserve me, O my God, from the profaneness and blasphemy, the lewdness and debauchery, the rudeness and violence that are most incident to men of this *profession* ; that I may not be *infected* with their contagion, but preserve my *integrity*, amidst all the temptations wherewith I am surrounded.

Though the sword is in my *hand*, let the peace of God rule in my *heart* ; and though I am a *soldier*, let me not be a *man of blood*, delighting in war ; but a ready *servant* of my country, a faithful *instrument* for our common defence and safety, and a dutiful *subject* to the powers ordained of God, for the Lord's sake. O my strength and my Redeemer, strengthen my heart and hands for the service to which I am called ; and make me *successful* and *victorious*, through thy blessing and power from on high. 'Tis thou, Lord, only, that makest it to dwell in *safety* : O cover my head in the day of *battle* ; and in all times of danger, be thou my *shield* and *buckler*. And either keep the evil *from* me, or *arm* me for it, that I may not be *ruined* by it, but gain *good* out of it, and find *bodily* hurts making for the health of my soul ; and even the *temporal* death but a gate opened to *eternal* life. And seeing I go with my life in my *hands*, and am more *exposed* than other men to dangers and death, O make

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me more *careful* of my soul, more *mindful* of my latter end, and more *diligent* to put and keep myself in a preparation and readiness to *die*. And whether I prosper or miscarry in the attempts and *enterprises* wherein I am now concerned, O let my soul be ever *precious* in thy sight, and *safe* in thy hands. Help me O my *supreme* Commander, the great *Captain* of our salvation, so to *live*, that I may find in the greatest *gain* to die: and let me go on (as *Christ's faithful soldier*) so *conquering* and *conquer* the enemies of thy *glory*, and the hindrances of my own and others *salvation*. When having overcome, I may sit down in thy kingdom, and *triumph* in thy sweetest love, and thy heavenly joy, and thy most glorious praise world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Melancholy and Dejected

O MOST good and gracious Lord! thou knowest our *frame*, and art a God full of *compassion*, to pity and relieve thy servants under their trouble and *oppression*. Look down we humbly pray thee, with thy wonted piety and remember in tender mercy the work of thy hands, our *disconsolate* friend; this troubled soul, that is even *distracted* in suffering and terrors; while thy wrath lies hard upon him, and all thy *waves* and *billows* are gone on him, to disturb his peace, and oppress his *mind*, and unfit him rightly to use his reason or discharge his duty. O thou that speak

the *winds* and *waves* into obedience and *calmness*, settle and quiet his discomposed *breast* ; speak peace and satisfaction to his troubled *mind* ; and give him comfort and sweet *repose*, in the sense of thy pardon and love. Lord, help his *unbelief*, and increase his faith, that he may not be *faithless*, but believing. Though he now walk in *darkness* and has no light, let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God. And in the multitude of the thoughts and sorrows that he has in his heart, O let thy *comforts* come in to refresh his soul. Be thou pleased, Lord, to deliver and ease him of the *load* that lies upon his spirit ; and let in the *beam* of thy heavenly light, to scatter and dispel all the *clouds* and *darkness* in which his mind is wrapt up. O direct to the *means* most proper for his help, and *bless* and prosper them so, that they may be *efficacious* to promote his recovery out of this low and *doleful* estate. Incline his ears to wholesome *counsels*, and fashion his heart to receive due *impressions*. O gracious Father ! pity his *frailty*, and forgive his *iniquity* ; and heal him, Lord, both in *soul* and *body* ; rebuking his *distemper* so, that his disquieted *soul* may return to its *rest*. O raise him up, and make him *whole*. Yea, make *haste*, O Lord, to shew such mercy upon him, even for thy own mercy's sake in Jesus Christ, our blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Lunatic and Distract

O LORD, the only wise God ! thou *understanding*, and takest it away as pleasest ; and thou art holy and righteous all that ever thou doest. Tho' the reason and meaning of many of thy works is *unknown* to us ; yet still thou knowest well what thou dost ; and we must be *dumb, and open our mouths*, when it is *thy doing*. The stroke which thou hast laid upon thy poor *creature*, is not to be *just* upon any of us ; and we must acknowledge it owing only to thy *mercy* that it is not better for us. But in tender compassion for our *pitiable* condition, we take upon us to be merciful *relief* in his behalf. For thou, that givest sense and discretion, canst as easily renew them when impaired : and thou madest thy servant out of *nothing*, canst bring him to himself again, and help him to use his *reason* aright, as he ought.

Dispel the *clouds* in which now his mind is wrapped up, that he may come to a good *understanding* of himself, and the things which are his ; give him *peace* ; reduce and heal the *crazed* and broken faculties ; or else *settle* and quiet them, and *compose* them. Have pity, we beseech thee, O Lord, upon him and impute not to him any thing that is now said or done amiss by him ; but in mercy pass it by, as if it had not been said or done at all.

O that thou wouldst direct to some one for help in this case, and make him try

to the use of remedies, and willing and ready to comply with the advice of his friends, till he shall be in better capacity to manage and help himself : and where no means will reach to work the *cure*, thou that canst open the *doors* which are *barred* against us, and art never at such a loss but thou *knowest how to deliver* ; O reveal thy *glorious arm* (without means) to bring salvation *from above* ; and do the work worthy of God, to command that deliverance which is out of our *prospect* to see effected ; that thy name may have all the *glory* of such thy great and wonderful mercy in Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for insensible Sinners.

O LORD, the great Almighty God, who quickenest the dead, and callest those things that are not, as if they were : with thee nothing is impossible ; but the things that *resist* all the skill and power of man, thy divine virtue and glorious *operation* (with the greatest *facility*) brings to pass. Thou, the living God, canst speak life to *souls* dead in trespasses and sins ; and make even such as lie in the *grave* of all their habitual corruptions, hear the *voice* of the Son of God, and *live*. It is the great work of thy eternal *spirit*, Lord, to convince the world of sin ; and to make *inconsiderate* careless sinners to know themselves, and be concerned as they ought about the case of their *souls*. O that these poor *insensible*

wretches — — — who have sinned themselves even past *feeling*, may find such mercy from the Lord, and yet come to feel in themselves that *irresistible* force of thy hand. O that thou wouldst open their eyes, to see their case, and soften their hearts, to bewail their sins; and *turn* their course to *flow* from the wrath to come! Blessed Lord, awaken them with thy *terrors*, before they be overtaken by thy *judgments*! O break in upon their souls by thy mighty convictions, to set them in bitterness for their sins; and let thy quick and powerful *word* pierce into their hearts, to make them cry and seek out, *What they must do to be saved*!

O if they did but apprehend their *case*, and know their *transgressions*, that they remain so remorseless and unconcerned, as if nothing were *amiss* with them, and that can *indulge* themselves in pleasure and mirth, as if they were in the happiest condition, would soon be struck down into the deepest heaviness and *consternation*, refusing to be comforted; and go *mourning* all the day long, yea, even *roar* for the disquietness of their hearts. O God of all grace, be thou pleased in *mercy* to shew such seeming *severity*; to write bitter things against them, and make them *confess* their former *iniquities*; and to feel now the *weight* and *horror* of all their sins, that they may not feel it *eternally* when past *remedy*. Direct and empower thy *messengers*, Lord, to speak *home* to their conviction, crying aloud, and not sparing

to shew them their *transgressions* and their sins.

Yea, make thy word in thy servants mouths as *fire*, to enflame and rouse the *consciences* of such drowsy secure sinners, that they may come to perceive what a *forlorn*, lost condition they are in ; and be *restless* in themselves, till coming unto Christ (labouring and heavy laden under the load of their sins) in him they find *rest* for their souls. O thou Almighty God ! do marvellous things, worthy of thyself in taking away that which blinds, the minds, and hardens the hearts of such stupid creatures ; and bring them out of the worst *lethargy* and *deadness*, to understand themselves, and seek after God, and to take and follow the way of *peace* with thee, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The condemned Malefactor's Prayer.

OUT of the *depths* do I cry to thee, O Lord ! Lord, hear my voice : let thy ears be attentive to the voice of my *supplication*. If thou, O Lord, shouldest mark *iniquities*, O Lord, who should stand ! but there is *forgiveness* with thee, that thou mayest be feared. Therefore I wait for the Lord ; my soul does wait, and in thy *word* do I hope. Though my sins have found me out, and brought me to *shame*, and they are *heinous* beyond expression and the thought and remembrance of them fills me with horror and confusion ; yet I believe (Lord help my unbelief) they are

not *greater* than thy Son has *satisfied* for, nor greater than thy mercy in him can set me *clear* from, as *bad* and *sad* as ever I have made my case. Woe is me, *vile* and *wretched* that I am, so foolishly and wickedly that I have done ! yet it is not past thy help and care, O Lord God Almighty, who at the lowest canst *raise*, and at the worst art able to *relieve* us. Except we *repent* thou hast told us, that we shall *perish*; but upon our *repentance*, thou hast promised thy gracious *forgiveness*. And though sin has *abounded*, yet when we *forsake* our wicked ways and thoughts and return to the Lord our God, thou has promised to have mercy upon us, and *abundantly* to pardon. He that *believeth* not on the Son of God is *condemned* with a worse *condemnation* than what I now lie under : but it is thy own most true and faithful word, O Lord, that whosoever believes in him shall not *perish*, but have everlasting life ; and that he who *confesseth* and *forsaketh* his sins, shall have *mercy*. Though I cannot find such mercy now at man's tribunal ; yet I beg it of thee, the Father of *mercies*, who art the Helper of the *friendless*, and dost not reject the cry even of *fools* in their distress, though because of their *sins* they are afflicted, but rememberest us in our *lowest estate*, out of that mercy of thine which endures for ever. O thou that hast promised to forgive every *penitent* sinner, make me, Lord, I beseech thee, one of that *number*. O touch my heart with true *remorse*, that it may *melt* and *bleed* for my sins, and
become

become such a broken, contrite heart, as thou wilt not despise.

O that the *doleful* circumstances which I am in, may be turned (through the riches of thy grace) into a happy occasion of *converting* my soul, and perfecting my *repentance*, and promoting my salvation ! This is a time of shame and sorrow with me ; but help me, good God, so to repent and be *converted*, that my Sins may be *blotted* out, when the times of *refreshing* shall come from the presence of the Lord. For thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon my *sin*, for it is *great* ; too great for any but the God of *infinite* goodness and love to give me a merciful discharge from : and that thou mayest have the everlasting *glory* and my soul the refreshing *fruit* of thy mercy, O Lord, prepare me for it by such a serious *repentance* as thy holy word requires of *sinners*, and such as thy goodness in Christ Jesus will mercifully accept at my hands. What is past I cannot *recall* ; but thou, Lord, canst *remit* it, and give me *grace* to repent it : O give me such sound repentance for my *sins*, that thou mayest also give me full *pardon* of them ; and never lay them to my *charge*, but upon the account of thy beloved Son, our blessed Saviour, who came to seek and to save that which was *lost* ; and who himself *suffered* and died once, that we might not suffer and die *eternally*. O wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin, in that fountain opened for sin and for uncleanness, the precious blood of the immaculate

344 *For the condemned Malefactor.*

Lamb of God, slain to take away the sins of the world, that thou mayest not *abhor* my soul, as I have justly deserved ; but (of thy wonderful mercy) *accept* me in the Son of thy *eternal* Love, in whom thou art *well pleased*.

My soul is exceeding *sorrowful*, even unto *death* ; O most gracious Lord ! grant that my sorrow may be the *godly sorrow* ; not only a sorrowing for the *bitter* consequences of my sin, but for the *sin* itself, and for my wicked *offending* of thee, my great Lord God, as I have done. O *blessed* Jesus, who camest to call *sinners* to repentance, and thyself didst hang upon the *cross*, and shew thy compassion and great salvation upon the poor *malefactor* there *suffering* ; remember me now in such *mercy*, Lord, for thy own mercy's sake. O Son of David have mercy upon me. Both now and ever, vouchsafe to hear me, O Christ ; graciously hear me, O Lord Christ ; and let thy mercy be shewed upon me, as I do put my *trust* in thee. O *glorify* this thy mercy in my *salvation*, and not thy justice in my *destruction*.

Though confusion is now my *portion*, yet help me, Lord, so to bear thy just *indignation*, and to obtain such benefit to my *soul*, out of the punishment of my *body*, that I may not hereafter awake to shame and *everlasting contempt*. And though I am now under the sentence of a *temporal death* ; yet spare my *soul*, O most merciful Lord, and deliver me not into the bitter pains of *eternal death*. O that
I may

may have all the shame and sorrow, and *evil things in this life*, that thou mayest spare me *for ever*; and shew forth all thy wonders of thy grace, and power, and mercy, to *prepare me for*, and *support me under the deserved punishment* which I am shortly to *suffer*, and to give *me hope in my death* (even in this *infamous death*;) and after death some part in thy *kingdom*, if but to be the least and lowest in the house of my God, for the sake of thy own tender mercies, and for the infinite merits of the great Redeemer of the world, my only Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen, Amen.

Prayer and Praise upon the Occasion of our blessed Saviour's Coming into the World.

BLESSING, and honour, and glory, and power, be to him that sitteth upon the throne, and to the Lamb, for ever and ever. O Lord God of our *salvation*! thou hast remembered us in our low estate, out of that mercy of thine which endures for ever. Thou hast raised up a *great salvation and mighty deliverance* for us; to *heal the sinful*, to help the *miserable*, and to save that which was *lost*. None but thy blessed Self, O Lord, the *gracious Giver*, knows the greatness of that *gift*, which thou hast conferred upon us; the (greatest that thou couldest give, or man receive) in giving thy *only Son* to be our Almighty Saviour, to deliver us from the eternal miseries of *hell*, and to make us meet to be partakers of the heavenly inheritance

inheritance of thy saints in *light*. O how wonderful have been the *designs* of thy love, and the *counsels* of thy wisdom, to recover our poor lost *souls*, and to work for them a salvation *worthy of God* ! that God should be manifested in the flesh, to destroy the works of the *devil* ; and that the eternally Beloved of thy soul, should be made *Son of Man*, to make us (sinful men) the *children of God* ! O what manner of *love* has the Father bestowed upon us ! exceeding all that ever we are able to say of it ? O that we and all men may praise thee, Lord, for thy goodness, and such thy wonderful works to the children of men : that we may ever, with all admiration and reverence, and thankfulness, receive and ponder this great *mystery* of godliness : and that we may return the *glory* of salvation up to thee, who hast sent the *joy* of salvation down to us, that our souls may *magnify* the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour ; and blessed be the Lord God of Israel, that has so visited and redeemed his people.

And now that thou hast laid *help* upon one that is mighty, and found a ransom for us, and made the all-sufficient provision to save us ; O help thou us, Lord our God, (as we ought) to entertain and welcome the *joyful news*, that Jesus Christ is come into the world to *save sinners*. Father of mercies, prepare us for the blessed Saviour which thou hast prepared for us : that he who came into the world in the *fulness of time*, may come into our souls with the *fulness of*
of

is grace, and with all the blessings and con-
 ditions of his coming : and that, as he was
 aculouſly formed in the Virgin's womb,
 may be ſpiritually formed in our hearts. O
 u great Lord and *lover* of ſouls ! remember
 : ſouls in *mercy*, with the favour which thou
 reſt to thy *people* ; and *viſit* us with the joy
 thy *ſalvation*. O make the way of ſalvation
in before us, that we may know where our
 lies, and what we muſt do to be *ſaved*.
 d incline and quicken us, O Lord, with all
 dineſs to take that *way*, and to embrace that
ce of God which brings *ſalvation* ; and to
ply with the gracious deſigns of thy *mercy*,
 do us the greateſt *good*, and to make us for
 r *happy*. O bleſſed Saviour, be thou an
 ctual Saviour unto us ; and ſo ſave us from
 ſins, that thou mayeſt alſo ſave us from the
 ath to come. So redeem us here from all
 uity, that hereafter thou mayeſt *redeem* us
 m everlaſting *miſery*. Thou cameſt down
 earth, to raiſe us up to *heaven* ; and tookeſt
 : *nature*, to make us partakers of *thine*. O
 t we may experience the mighty *power* of
 r great *ſalvation* upon us, to heal our depraved
 ures, to *ſanctify* our finful ſouls, and to
 ke us ſuch *lovers* and *followers* of thy *holy*
ys, that we may have in us *Chriſt the hope of*
 ry, and thoſe good things of thy *ſpirit* which
 accompany ſalvation. And for all the great
 d ſtrange things which thou haſt ſo graciouſly
 ne for us, in revealing thy ſalvation, and
 ening the *doors* of hope to us, and putting

us in the way to that blissful end of our faith, the eternal *salvation* of our souls, which thou hast purchased for us. Unto thee, O blessed God our Saviour, (in the unity of the ever glorious Trinity) be all thanks and praise, and honour, and glory, rendered by us and all thy church, now and for evermore. Amen.

A Prayer on the Occasion of our blessed Saviour's Death.

O GOD, the Father of *mercies*, and of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom every *mercy* is vouchsafed and derived unto us; thou didst create us after thy own blessed image, in a holy and happy estate, but we have defaced thy first handy-work, and put ourselves not only in a case of *strangeness* unto thee, but of *enmity* against thee; (in Adam all die; and by the offence of one, *judgment* came upon all men to *condemnation* :). yet thou hast not used us as *enemies*, to leave us in the sad ruins of our fall; but hadst an eye of *pity* to us, lying in our blood, to bid us *live* : though thy own eternal beloved Son was fain to *die*, to save us from that everlasting *death*; which is the due *wages* of our sin, yet him thou *sparedst* not, that thou mightest *spare* us, and make us the eternal monuments of thy saving *mercy*. O what amazing unspeakable love is this, that even when enemies, we should be reconciled to God, by the death of his Son! But O the cursed nature of sin (to be hated with a perfect hatred) that had need of such

an atonement ! O the dreadful justice of God (how should we ever stand in awe of it !) that required such a *satisfaction* ! O the *love* of Christ, which passeth *knowledge*, that would redeem our poor *lost* souls at such a costly rate ! and shed his own precious *blood* to save us ! And O the precious *death* of our Lord Redeemer, (to be had in everlasting *remembrance* !) By it we *abide*, and upon that we depend for the *pardon* of all our sins ; and for our whole *acceptance* with God, both here and for ever. Tho we could not *satisfy* thy justice, O God, for our sins, should we suffer eternally ; yet thy Son has satisfied in full, and nothing at all remains on their score, for whom thou art pleased to accept his *infinite satisfaction*. And seeing there is balm in Gilead, and a *Physician* that is able to heal us, O let not our souls be *unhealed* : let not the great things which our Lord Redeemer hath done and endured for poor lost sinners, be lost unto us ; but let the same be mercifully accepted upon our account, and for our sins. O let not the blood of Jesus Christ (as to us) be shed in vain ; but let it purge and purify us from all our sins, and make our peace with thee, the just and holy God, against whom we have greatly sinned ; that we may be healed by his stripes, and find his death unto us the favour of *life*.

Though we are sinful and unclean, yet what pollution and defilement cannot this *Fountain*, opened for sin and uncleanness, wash and *cleanse* us from ! Having therefore such an all-

sufficient Saviour to repair to, we will not be *faithless*, but believing that Christ is our Lord, and our God, who loved and redeemed us, and washed us from our sins in his own *blood*. O that we may know him, and the *fellowship* of his sufferings, and be so conformable to his death, that it may *mortify* the corruption of our nature, and the lusts that war in our members ; and *crucify* the world unto us, and us to the world ! The Lord pardon all our forgetfulness and disregard, and contempt of thy affliction to us, and thy affliction for us : And make us to know more of the love wherewith thou hast loved us ; and touch our hearts with such a powerful sense of thy love, that we may make better returns of love, to the great Lord and *lover* of our souls ; and that we may never forget or slight such *unparalleled* kindness and love of God our Saviour, stronger than *death*, and better than *life*. O that the life which we now live, may be by the *faith* of the Son of God, who loved us, and gave himself for us ! O let us not *live* any longer than we may abound in thy *love*. Blessed Lord ! let this be ever preferred above our *chief joy* ; and let nothing in the world ever be so dear to us as the altogether lovely Jesus, who has given the highest demonstration of love that ever could be given to our poor lost souls. And to thee, our Almighty Redeemer, and sweet Saviour, be all the praise and glory given most humbly and heartily, now and eternally. *Amen, Amen.*

*Prayer and Praise on the Occasion of our blessed
Saviour's Resurrection.*

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to his abundant mercy, has begotten us again to a lively *hope*, by the *resurrection of Jesus Christ*, from the dead. 'Tis he that liveth and was dead; and behold he is alive for evermore, *Amen*; and has the keys of death and of *hell*. The Lord liveth; and blessed be our Rock, and let the God of our Salvation be *exalted*. He that bore our griefs, and carried our sorrows, has wrought eternal *redemption* for us: with his own right hand and holy arm, hath he got himself the *victory*; having looked the pains of death, because it was *impossible* he should be beholden of it. The glorious Sun of Righteousness is risen with *healing* in his wings; and hath shewed, that he is able to save himself, and to save to the utmost all that come to God through him. Our eyes therefore are to thee, O Lord, our life, our strength, and our Redeemer, who hast all power in heaven and in earth, to whom nothing is impossible or difficult; who quickenest the dead, even souls dead in sin, as well as bodies dead in the grave; and hast life in thyself, to give it to whomsoever thou wilt. O that we may know thee, and the power of thy resurrection! and that we may feel it efficacious, to raise us out of the grave of our sinful corruptions, to newness and holiness of life.

life ! that having part in the first resurrection; the second death may have no power over us. Speak death to our sins, O Lord, that our souls may live, and for ever bless thy name. Thou, O Christ, art our life ; and in thee is all fulness of whatever we want. O give us the life which thou camest that we might have, and let us have it more abundantly : yea, such life, from thee, as may enable us to live *unto thee*, and that entirely and cheerfully, even as long as we have any *life and being*. Amen.

Prayer and Praise on the Occasion of our blessed Saviour's Ascension.

THOU art the King of Glory, O Christ ; thou hast ascended *on high*, and dragged the *infernal* foes after thy *triumphant* chariot. And thou art exalted far above all *principalities* and *powers* ; and enthroned in the highest *glory* in thy heavenly kingdom, where *saints* and *angels*, and all the *host* of heaven do *admire* and adore thee. Be thou *exalted*, Lord, and reign in the greatness of thy *power* and *majesty*, till thou hast brought all enemies in subjection under thy *feet*. But, Lord, remember us, now thou art in thy *kingdom*, where thou rulest and reignest *on high*. O regard the supplications, and relieve the necessities of thy poor subjects and servants here below. Save, Lord, and let the *King of heaven* hear us when we call. And O that we may feel the powerful *attraction* of thy *Grace* and Holy Spirit ; to draw up our
minds

minds and desires from the poor *perishing enjoyments* here below, to those most glorious and *everlasting attainments* above where thou fittest at the *right hand* of God. O let us lay up our *treasure*, and have our *conversation* with thee in *heaven*; and so love thy appearing, and *desire* to be dissolved and to be with Christ, that when Christ, who is our life shall *appear*, we may also appear with him in *glory*: and after our ascending and dwelling above in heart and spirit; we may at last *personally* ascend, in soul and body, to be *ever with the Lord*; there, together with thy whole *triumphant church*, to see and admire, and love and bless, and praise and glorify thee, O blessed God our Saviour, world without end. *Amen.*

A Prayer on the Occasion of the Coming of the Holy Ghost.

O THOU infinite, eternal Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who workest *all in all*; and especially workest and abidest in the hearts and souls of men! pardon, (we beseech thee) all our resisting of thy motions, and quenching the flames which thou hast ever enkindled in our breasts. And be pleased so to *enlighten* our minds, and *purify* our hearts, that we may be fit to receive and entertain thee, as the Guide and Comforter of our souls. O blessed Truth! lead us into all *truth*; and bring all needful things out of thy word to our remembrance: and set them home powerfully upon our hearts,

to influence our *lives*, and to do us good, in every time of our need. O work, Lord, the grace that is not in us ; and establish and increase what thou hast already wrought upon us. Excite and stir us up to all good ; and enable us for the performance of it, and engage us to continue and persist in it.

O come down, Lord, as fire, upon us, to consume our dross, and to make clean our hearts, and enflame them with heavenly love, that we may rightly relish thy holy things, and be lively in following of thy holy ways. O be thou a powerful principle of life and light, and love, and of all grace and holiness in our souls, to clear and illuminate our minds, to spiritualize and raise up our affections ; and to pacify and compose our consciences ; and to bring our souls out of every dangerous, self-destroying course, into the paths of righteousness—and that way of life, which is above to the wise, to depart from hell beneath. O blessed Lord, restrain us from grieving the Holy Spirit of God, whereby we are *sealed* to the day of redemption ; and cast us not away from thy presence. Take not thy Holy Spirit *from us*. O make us so tractable to his *holy motions*, that we may experience his *heavenly consolations*. And let the *joy in the Holy Ghost* be more to us than all the *pleasures of the world*. O blessed Spirit ! be thou ever with our *spirits*, to heal our distempers, and help our infirmities, and work mightily upon our hearts by thy *grace* ; till our souls are fitted for that glory which is unspeakable and everlasting. Amen.

A Prayer

A Prayer on the Commemoration of any Saint.

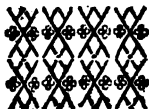
O GOD of all grace, who art pleased to call out of this present *world* a *peculiar* people to thyself; and so far to discover thy *grace*, and pour out thy Spirit upon many of thy *servants*, to make them shine as *lights* in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation; **e**minent in all praise-worthy things, and great **e**xamples to the rest of mankind! We bless thy name, O Lord, that thou hast not left this miserable world destitute of such helps and patterns, both to shew us a more excellent way than the way of the world; and also to shew us how *practicable* is our duty; and what encouragement we have to take the holy good way, wherein others (with such happy *success*) have gone before us; that we (in our sluggishness) might be *excited* to be *followers* of them, as they were of Christ. And seeing we are encompassed with so great a *cloud* of witnesses, O that we may lay aside every *weight*, and the sin that does so easily *beset* us, and run with patience the *race* that is set before us! Teach and enable us, O *King of Saints*, to make the good use and advantage of thy gifts and graces, shining forth in the *inoffensive useful* lives of such as have given thy holy religion the best *recommendation*, by letting men see their *good works*; and how much more *excellent* it makes the *righteous* than their neighbours.

O that

O that we may never *persecute* thy *saints*, nor madly despise those who are as the *apple of thine eye*, whose great care is to approve themselves *faithful* in thy covenant, and *zealous* for thy glory : and not only to preserve their *integrity*, and keep themselves unspotted from the *world* ; but to do *good* in their generations, and turn many to *righteousness*. May we ever hold such in highest *reputation* while *living*, as well as count their *memories* precious when they are dead. O heavenly Father ! let them be *dearest* to us that are so to thyself. And let all our delight be in such excellent ones (the saints that are in the earth) of whom the world is not worthy ; however they be so frequently and greatly abused by the world, as if unworthy to live in it. O let us not be conformed to this world, nor follow the *multitude* to do *evil* ; but be followers of those, who, through faith and patience, do already inherit thy glorious promises ; and so *live the life*, that we may also *die* the death of the righteous. Help us, Lord our God, so to imitate thy saints here, in their *holy living*, that hereafter we may be numbered with them in the glory *everlasting*. As we desire and hope for their blessed end, O let us love and follow their godly way, and make the communion of *saints* a point of our practice, as well as an article of our faith ; being lovers of all good men, honouring them that fear the Lord, and esteeming them very highly in love for their *work's* sake. And the Lord increase the num-

ber

ber of the true *converts*, and thy *faithful* people, and those that be followers of God, as *dear children* in all places. O let thy *kingdom come*; and thy *will* be done on *earth*, as it is in *heaven*, that thy church may grow and prosper, and flourish; till we with all thy *servants* departed in the Lord, meet together in the kingdom of our Father, to live in thy *presence* and love; and to enjoy and praise thee, world without end. *Amen.*



A Soliloquy

A SOLILOQUY for the PIOUS SOUL'S SOLACE!

By way of Paraphrase on the Creed.

LET not your heart be troubled (saith the Lord of love, our dear compassionate Redeemer) ye believe in God, believe also in me (the messenger of his love, sent to be the Saviour of the world.)

Why art thou *cast down* then, O my soul! and why art thou disquieted within me! when

I BELIEVE IN GOD,

And am not exposed (as one *forlorn*) to shift for myself, and to make me a *happiness* out of my own flock, or *want* it! but I have a God to repair unto, and depend upon; and to expect all that ever I can desire from him. And this God is

THE FATHER,

Not only of our Lord Jesus Christ, by eternal generation, but *my Father*, by a late creation, which has brought me out of *nothing* to what I am; not only to *being*, and *life*, and *sense*, but to the use of *reason*, and to the *enjoyment* of all that ever I have in the world. Yea, I am bold to father myself upon him also by a spiritual adoption; and I am persuaded that a woman may sooner forget her sucking child, than the Lord will forsake that work of his hands which he has now created in Christ Jesus: nor is he less able than willing to do me good, being

ALMIGHTY

And what is too hard for Omnipotence? o who can pluck me out of his hands, w whom

he very powers of hell are but weakness ?
Though I am weak as a *shaken reed* myself ;
yet my help stands in the name of the Lord,
who is the

MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH,

and what can any of his creatures do against
e, when God himself is for me ; he that *made*
Z, will he see his child want a competency
the world ! or should I be turned out of
e earth, yet all heaven is the Lord's ; and
hen he is my portion, I am sure of that,
hich is infinitely better than all the world's
ood ; which, alas, is but a poor drop from
e eternal Fountain of all goodness. And
hat can be better than him that made it,
nd gave it all that goodness which it has ?
lyself, and whatever I see in the world was
nce nothing ; and the great Lord, who was
lost blessed before all worlds, and would have
een nevertheless blessed, though we had never
een at all, he has brought us into being ; not
or any need he had of us, but to communi-
cate of his goodness to us,

IN JESUS CHRIST,

nd what so sweet as Jesus in my mouth ! No
ch music in my ears ; no such gladness in
y heart ; I was lost, and Jesus is my Sav-
ur ; I was dead, and Jesus is my life ; I was
enemy, and Jesus is my peace. Still I sin,
nd Jesus is my Advocate with the Father.
hrist is my prophet to direct me, my priest to
redeem for me, my king to defend me, and to

watch for good over me ; he is all that I
and that I can wish. I am worse than now
without him ; and have all things given
together with him, who is the beloved
Father ;

HIS ONLY SON,

The only one, by nature, that is co-equal
the Father and having such a friend in
court of heaven, I will therefore come
to the throne of Grace. For if the Son
us free, we shall be free indeed. The Father
will deny us nothing that we ask in his name
and the Son upbraids us, that we make
more use of this our blessed privilege. He
to ye have asked *nothing* in my name
he ;) *ask* and ye shall *receive*, that you
may be full. Such pleasure has he in
prosperity of his servants, who is

OUR LORD,

Our heavenly sovereign ; at whose feet
do cast their crowns, and all the angels
God worship him. O happy the servants
that have such a Lord ! and blessed be
Lord, that will admit of me in the number
of his servants ! Is not he my Lord, that
bought me ? In one sacrament I was
into his service ; and in the other, how
have I sworn to him allegiance ! This
crown of all my glorying, that Jesus is my

WHO WAS CONCEIVED BY THE HOLY GHOST

In a miraculous manner, above all the powers
of nature ; and without any the least

fin ; that he might be the meet propitiation for all our sins. He is fairer than the children of men, who are (all of them) shapen in iniquity, and conceived in sin. But he is free from every blemish, and altogether lovely.

BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY,

And so he has done the highest honour to our poor nature, by uniting it to the divine ; taking part of our flesh and blood, that he might not only be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but also taste death for our offences : coming down to earth, to raise us up to heaven ; and manifested in our flesh, to bring salvation home to our very doors : And how can I ever now be at a desperate loss, when the Lord, in whom lies our help, is become *God with us* ! and to embolden our addresses to him, he has vouchsafed even to set up his dwelling among us. All the glory of salvation be to thee, O Lord, who hast brought such joy of salvation to the world.

HE SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE.

And having no need at all to suffer for any sins of his own, was he not wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities ? O wicked wretch ! that I should be, one of those, who put the Son of God himself upon suffering ! But O how happy for me, that he would be pleased to suffer once, to save me from suffering for ever.

HE WAS CRUCIFIED,

Love, that was strong as death, fastened my
 I i Saviour

Saviour to the infamous tree ; with his arms extended to receive me ; and his side opened to make me a passage to his very heart. O my dearest Lord ! God forbid that I should glory save in thy cross ; which I shew Satan to confound him ; on which I lean, to rest my weary soul ; and to which I will cling, though carried by the gates of hell : yea, by which I hope to climb to the glory everlasting in heaven. He was

DEAD,

Not only Abraham, the friend of God, gave up the ghost ; but he that was before Abraham, our blessed Saviour himself, the well beloved Son of God, when he took upon him the seed of Abraham, was not excused from dying. And shall I then conclude that my God has no kindness for me, because I must follow such forerunners, and go the way of all flesh ? No ; though he slay me, yet will I trust in him, and have hope even in my death ; for the *death* of Christ is my *life* ; seeing he has taken out the sting of death temporal, and made it the very entrance to life eternal. He has led us the way, through that gloomy vale, to the glorious region of immortality. And shall death separate me from my Saviour, or divorce my soul from the heavenly bridegroom ? No ; I depart hence to be with Christ, and that I may get nearer to him whom my soul loveth. He is gone before ; and, Lord, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. Thou wast laid *in the grave,*

AND

AND BURIED,

To make that desolate place inviting by thy presence; to perfume the chambers of death; and turn the horrible pit into a happy seminary—where the poor, weak, perishing flesh is sown to come up again, powerful, glorious, and incorruptible. And shall I shrink from the bed where my Lord himself lay! would I lie better than he did? No; the grave itself is become a goodly lodging since Christ was there. And I will not go down in sorrow to my grave, when going but to sleep with Jesus, the life of my soul, and the spring of all my joy.

HE DESCENDED INTO HELL.

Three days he continued in the state of the *dead*, that none might question the truth of his death, upon which depends all our hope of pardon and life. That I might not dread the parting of soul and body, which befel my Lord himself; and that none belonging to him might be out of heart, even at the lowest ebb, when our Redeemer, who lay so long under the *power* of death,

THE THIRD DAY HE ROSE AGAIN FROM THE DEAD.

And shall I be in bondage all my life, through fear of *death*, when under the conduct of such a victorious *Captain* of salvation, that has triumphed over all the powers of the grave; No; he lives and was dead. And though I know I must die, yet withal I know that my Redeemer liveth, and is alive for evermore;

and because ~~he~~ *he* lives, I shall live also; for he has no *life* but what every member of his shall share in. Now, therefore, O *death*, I can triumph over thee, since my Lord has routed all *thy forces*. 'Tis true, yet thou canst kill me, but thou canst not hurt me; for take down this crazy cottage, and a better fabric shall succeed, to stand for eternal ages. But could not all the bonds of death hold my *Almighty Saviour*? Dearest Lord! Thou wast arrested for our debt, and laid up in the prison of the *grave*, on our account; but thy *release* gives me a cheerful assurance that thou hast satisfied divine justice to the utmost. Since thou art come so gloriously forth, I am sure that all is discharged. Then blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to his abundant mercy, has begotten us again to a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN.

And O with what joyful acclamations was he welcomed home into those high regions of the blessed, after all his wondrous achievements, to effect eternal redemption for us! He led captivity captive, and dragged the infernal powers after his triumphant chariot, to shew that hell, as well as death, is subject unto him. And now he has cleared us a way to glory, and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers; being gone to prepare a place for us; *that where he is, there we may be also.* Even
where He

HE SITTETH AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, THE
FATHER ALMIGHTY ;

Far above all principalities and powers, a glorious King for evermore. With all power and authority in his hands, and all the crowns and mansions of glory at his disposal. He is not only the Prince of the kings of the earth, by whom they all do reign : but all the angels in heaven fly to do his pleasure ; where he has thrown off the veil, under which he shrouded his majesty here below ; and shews himself now in all the splendor of the King of glory, to the admiration of the highest cherubims and seraphims, who will be joyfully taken up to all eternity, in beholding such wonders of divine beauty and glory. To him I look as the great author and finisher of our faith, and the blessed object of my daily worship and devotion ; who, in all the height of his glory, does not forget his poor retainers here, but has still bowels of compassion to intercede for us, as well as fullness of power to prevail on our behalf ; and God forbid that I should forget this absent friend ; that he should be (to me) out of sight out of mind. O where should be my heart, but with the great love and beloved of my soul ? who not only humbled himself on earth, but even now in heaven so humbles himself, as to remember me in my low estate. And when I am loaded, or gravelled that I know not what to do, I will go and put the matter into his hands, who can easily help me out, and

set me right ; for what enemies too hard for me but he can soon make them his footstool ; What boon so big to be asked, but this great Master of requests in heaven, can obtain it for me ? What time I am afraid then, or troubled, in a streight or at a loss, I will look unto Jesus, at God's right hand above, and remember his kind office there ; and pray his friendship, and intreat his gracious favour, who is worthy ever to be heard for me, though I am unworthy to speak for myself.

FROM THENCE HE SHALL COME TO JUDGE THE
QUICK AND THE DEAD,

And shall appear in greater power and glory than ever he was seen here in weakness and poverty ; when his stubborn enemies, that would not that he should reign over them, shall be brought forth and slain before him : and all his sheep that hear his voice, and follow him, waiting for his coming, and loving his appearing, shall then *hold up the head*, and never *droop* any more, but find the most refreshing sunshine amidst all the gloominess and horrors of that day ; which will be to them a day of discharge, and jubilee, and coronation ; the most sweet and lightsome day that ever came over them. Then shall I see him set on the throne, to give me my portion ; who was nailed on the cross to purchase my salvation ; my advocate, my life, my Saviour, will be alone exalted in that day. And will my advocate accuse me ? will my life destroy me ? will my Saviour

Saviour condemn me ? No ; though good and bad both be called over there ; long as Jesus is my judge, who himself has satisfied for the bad, and will make my imperfect good then shine out as the noon-day ; I will pray, Come Lord Jesus, *come quickly*.

I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY GHOST,

The Lord and giver of life, the heavenly counsellor and comforter of our souls, by whom I call Jesus Lord, and cry Abba Father unto my God. And having such a blessed guardian, and divine inhabitant, why do I drag on *heavily*, as if left *comfortless* ? why do I not overflow with joy in the Holy Ghost ? am I weak ? he is the power of the Most High, to help my infirmities. Am I forgetful ? he is the kind monitor, to bring all needful things to my remembrance. Am I afraid lest I should fail of God's acceptance and salvation ? this blessed spirit witnesseth with my spirit, that I am the *child of God* ; and *seals* me to the day of *redemption*. Away then, thou foul accuser of the brethren : peace, clamorous *conscience* ; and stand aside all pitiful *creature comforts* ; I have *affiance* in the Holy Ghost, the *Comforter*. For I belong to

THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH.

I am a member of that most truly *royal society*, some of which (already entered into the joy of their Lord) are got out of the *field* to their *crowns* ; and passed from *service* to *triumph* ; and the rest here—(yet on our *pilgrimage* and *warfare*)—are reaching forth to the glorious

prize of the high *calling* of God in Christ Jesus. The *lines* are fallen to me in pleasant places, where the *Sun of righteousness* is risen to us, and causes the heavenly *day-spring* from on high to shine upon us ; yea, in that *church*, against which the *gates of hell* shall not prevail. I believe

THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS,

The same *life* and spirit pervades the multitude of *believers* every where : and, like so many rivulets, they run all to the same *sea*, although not in the same *channel* : Or, like divers strings of a musical instrument, though they have several notes, yet they make up one *song* of praise and glory to their *common Lord* ; from whom they receive *influence*, as all the *bodily* parts do from the *head*, and are knit together as *fellow-members* of Christ's body. They are the *household of faith* ; of that corporation and family of *heaven* ; for the sake of which they forget their own *people*, and *father's house*. Yea, as all the parts of the *body* (how mean soever) share in the same life as is in the *head* and *heart* ; and the *noblest* members despise not the *vilest* ; but the *lowest* are of use to the *biggest* and all conspire for the joint interest of the *whole* ; so I, as a part of this *great body*, (whilst I *straggle* not for myself, but keep to the *flock of Christ*, and join with them in the worship and service of my Lord, and tender and love them in my heart) am one of their *happy number*, and do share in the *prayers* of every faithful *christian* throughout the world : and *communi-*
cating

cating now with the saints in all *offices of love*; I shall be advanced, with them, to the possession of their heavenly inheritance in *internal life*.

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.

This is the *article* that strikes at the very *root* of bitterness, and removes the *ground* of all my *fears* and *griefs*. O how numerous are my sins ! and what a heavy load upon my soul ! But it enlightens my heart to hear of God *manifested in the flesh* ; to undergo all the penalties of sin, in the very nature that sinned ; to bear our sins in his own body on the tree. And when our All-sufficient Surety has finished the atonement, will the justice of God require a second payment ? No, God is not only merciful, but just also in justifying the believers in Jesus ; who was made sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. And now all the frightful guilt is swallowed up in that Fountain opened for sin and uncleanness ; like as a drop of ink is lost in a mighty river, so that my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour ; and I thank God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose *blood* cleanses us from all our *sin*. O that I could love him yet more, who forgiveth me so much.

THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY.

This is the Christian's *strong hold*, that although we fall into the *grave*, we shall not be utterly *cast down* ; but have a Lord that will be the *plague of death*, and the *destruction of the grave* ;

to redeem us out of the hands of both. My flesh is perishing as the grass that's green and withered in a day. But this *mortal* shall put on *immortality* : yea *mortality* itself shall be swallowed up of *life*. This *heavy log* though sown a *natural*, shall rise a *spiritual* body, to glide through *etherial* regions, as the fish in chrystal streams ; and swifter than eagle or arrow, to follow the Lamb whithersoever he goes. Even the vile, coarse flesh (in the great morning of the *resurrection*) shall come gloriously forth, as a *bridegroom* out of his *chamber* ; and like the trees new apparrelled in the Spring ; more orient and beautiful of itself than all make it ; shining as the *firmament* ; yea, outvying the stars and the sun. Is my body then often here put to hardships ? Be it so ; I do not look for my haven in it now, as it is here ; but I expect it to rise impossible, past all suffering : And, in the mean time, I must not think it strange to be tossed on shipboard, till I arrive at the fair haven, where I would be. Am I tempted to excesses, or any lusts of the flesh, I will not surfeit on the meat that perishes, nor sink the vessel that is carrying me over to the blessed *Land of promise*. Rather let me go without my full repast in the evening of this mortal life ; so that I break my fast on thy heavenly pleasures of *eternity*, in the *dawning* of the *Last Day*. I do not hate thee, my own *flesh*, to bid thee *stay* and keep thy *appetite* for *entertainments* infinitely *better* ; seeing I believe the resurrection of the *body*,

AND

AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. AMEN.

This is the *centre* of our *desire*, and the *crown* of our joys; the *drift* of our whole *religion*; and the *height* of all *perfection*: That which eases all our labours, and makes our very *troubles* look cheerful upon us. Wretched relief is the *heathens* *antidote* against the *dread* of *death*; only to think, that *die* we must. But *Christians* have a *consolation* strong indeed, that, after *death* we shall *live* *for ever*. Our present lives are (for the most part) spent in providing us livelihoods; and, instead of carrying *happiness* now in our *vessels*, all that we can do is but to make shift a little to *stop* our *misery*. Though God has graciously made it pleasant, even to repair the *decays* of our nature: yet he would not have us mistake that poor *pleasure* for our *heaven*; and the soul that knows itself is rather *weary* of this attendance on the *corruptible* flesh, and *aspires* after that state where the body shall *obsequiously* follow, without the *drudgery* of patching up its *breaches* and decays. Where shall be nothing *vexatious* or *troublesome*; nothing to hinder or abate the *perfection* of bliss! nothing to mar or embitter the *fulness* of joy, but (all the *black curtains* drawn aside) we shall have the *beatific sight* of our Lord, which will create in us *raptures* bigger than our *hearts* can hold, till *heaven* shall hold our souls, and we enter into that joy of our Lord, which is too large to enter into us; where we shall meet with all the best company in the world; and enjoy that sweetest of all

scie'y, without any *reserves*, in the most glorious *place*: And their and our souls, being then perfectly *healed* of every thing *offensive*, we shall have all the *refreshments*, without any *uneasiness* of conversation. Every *faculty* of the soul shall there imbibe that fulness of *satisfaction* which so long it had sought, but never found before. And neither shall the body want an agreeable *entertainment* for its *feast* and *solace*. But it is not for a *tongue* of flesh to utter, what eyes and ears of flesh never saw nor heard. 'Tis enough to know, that it is above our knowledge; being the life that is *sweetened* with a goodness no less than the *divine*, and *measured* with a *duration* no shorter than *eternal*.

All this I believe; and I believe it is more than all this which I believe, in believing the *life everlasting*. My *life* is hid with Christ in God; and the *life* which I now *live*, I live by the *faith* of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. And when Christ, who is our *life*, shall *appear*, then shall I also *appear* with him in *glory*. O let me now begin the *life* of *heaven*, and hereafter I shall never know its *end*: while I am here *alive*, may I so *die* to the *flesh* and the *world*, that when I depart from hence, I may *live* to God with Christ; which is the *life* incomparably *best* of *all*. Amen, Amen.

THE END. H





